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HIGHTIMES

K48427

OCTOBER 1987

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MUSHROOM QUEST OF
R. GORDON
WASSON
1899-1987**

**GROWING GUIDE:
SHROOMS VS. POT
BASEBALL FEVER:
IT'S SICK!**

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To upgrade to our 125,000 lumen—12,000 hr. Superbulb Add \$15.00
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To upgrade to our 40,000 lumen—20,000 hr. Superbulb Add \$10.00
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Completely assembled. All systems include a covered ventilated ballast, bulb, reflector, 15' lamp cord and 8' power cord.

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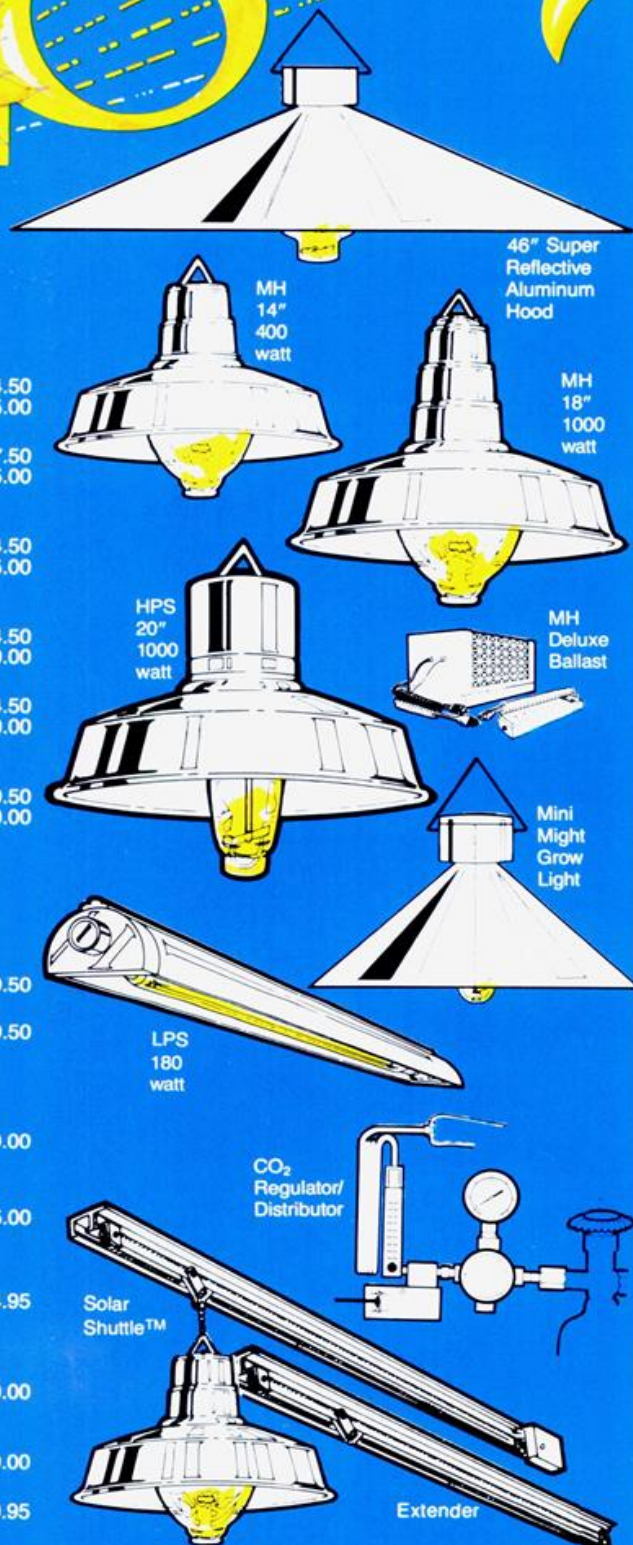
- ★ 180 watts produce 33,000 lumens. Great for flowering. Excellent for side light. Deluxe fixture. Ventilated ballast box \$195.00

ACCESSORIES:

Replacement light bulbs available for all our systems at our low everyday prices.

- ★ 15 amp Paragon timer (works on all our systems) \$14.95
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The mushroom R. Gordon Wasson credited with instilling man with his first religious experiences. Photo by Dr. W. Rauh, courtesy of Alfred van der Marck Editions.

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THOMAS KING FORCADE, 1945-1978

EDITOR'S NOTE

● Our Special Mushroom Issue is dedicated to **R. Gordon Wasson**, the man without whom the psychedelic revolution might never have taken place. This true-blue guru, who died at 88 years of age last December, was the spiritual Columbus of the rainbow-hued American dream. Banker, scholar, adventurer, psychic voyager, Wasson's activities established a model that later researchers would follow, as did his friend and peer Dr. Albert Hofmann, the discoverer of LSD. At one time, when Wasson published the story of his psychedelic trips under the guidance of a Mexican shamaness in *LIFE* magazine (1957), Wasson was the best-known head in the world. This issue is dedicated to his righteous spirit. ● Seeing a revelation like Wasson's printed in a mainstream publication is hard to imagine in these days of drug war sensationalism. That's why HIGH TIMES exists: to bring you the straight truth about the positive, spiritual aspects of psychoactive substances. As you leaf through our Mushroom Special, we hope you'll have an even more enlightening time than the one we bring you month after month. ● One caution: **DO NOT INGEST MUSHROOMS** without the proper information (a good field guide, an experienced tripper). While shrooms can take you higher and higher, they can also put you away. Handle with care. ● This is my last Editor's Note from my perch on high. When I came to HIGH TIMES three years ago, my mandate was to bring the magazine into synch with the realities of the '80s. Without compromising the original vision of HIGH TIMES, I think I've done that job, and I'm happy to see that, to judge by our growing subscriptions and newsstand circulation, the readers think so too. Happy trails. ●

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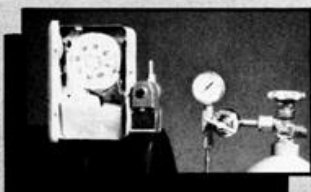
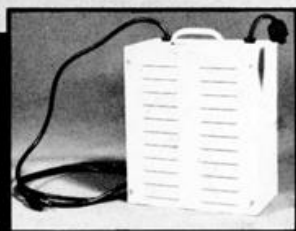


John Howell,
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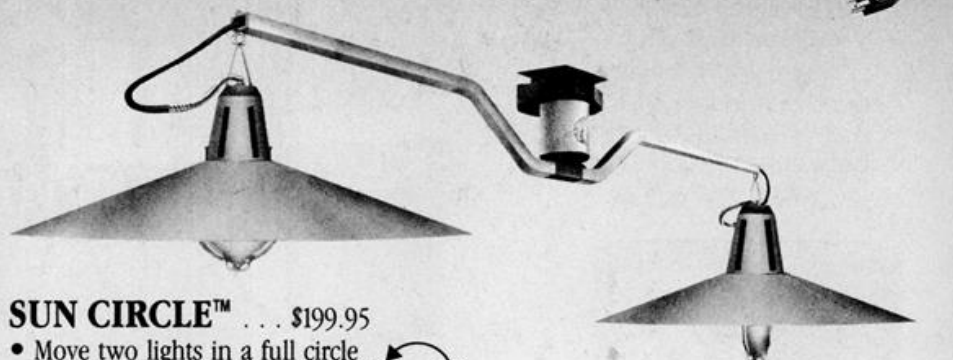
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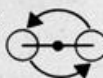
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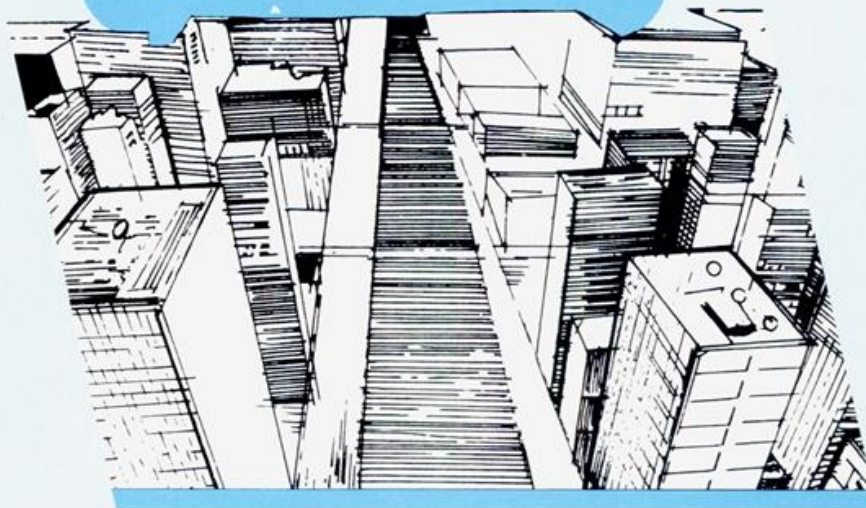
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18% more light than 46"



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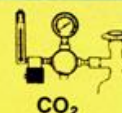
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For more product information, see our ads on pages 8 & 9.

LETTERS

GAG TOMA!

Instead of merely complaining to the FCC about TV evangelists—some of whom are corrupt—let's go after a real bullshit artist: One who speaks out obsessively and often inaccurately about what HIGH TIMES is all about. This bullshit artist is David Toma, who says that a puff of marijuana causes kids to go crazy and leap off buildings. This character charges high schools \$6,000 for an appearance and totally debases any legitimate education against drug abuse.

—D.W.

New Rochelle, New York

TV evangelists are more than corrupt. They've had the ear of both Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan and have been influential in forming their anti-drug policies. Toma's power base is nothing in comparison. Getting TV evangelists off the air should be a HIGH TIMES imperative, shouldn't it?

SKULL-DRUGGERY

Lately a friend and I had an argument regarding the cover of the February '87 issue. My friend says the skull on the cover isn't made of hash. I say it is. If it is made of hash, what kind is it, and do you know the approximate weight?

—Streaker Max

Long Beach, California

The skull belongs to Ed Hassle, who hasn't been by the office in some time. Next time he shows up, we'll try and get the info out of him.

NO STRANGER TO GAT

The photograph on page 21 of the July '87 issue isn't captioned correctly. The man on the right is indeed Yitzhak Shamir, but the one on the left isn't Shimon Peres. It's Israel's Deputy Prime Minister, David Levy. Levy is of Moroccan origin and probably no stranger to either gat, or to kif, as hash is referred to in the Middle East. Shamir,



● David Toma

P12

of Polish origin, is a former underground leader and an accomplice to Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982. He probably doesn't get high too often. Both of these men represent the extreme right-wing Herut Party which calls for the settlement and conquest of all "Biblical Israel." They are responsible for the continued oppression and misery of many Palestinians. They are hardly the type of leaders that "...act just like us."

—M.K.

Toronto, Ontario

P.S.: Do I win a HIGH TIMES T-shirt for pointing this out?

Our apologies about the caption. Another news source captioned it incorrectly, and we took the information from that. As for the "act just like us" gag, we assume people know that all politicians are scum. We just thought it

was interesting that these guys smoke pot occasionally—"just like us!" Sorry pal—no T-shirt for missing the punchline.

ALTERED STATE

First of all, I want to tell you I really enjoy tripping out on your mag. I want to know why I have altered states when I take a certain amount of LSD (I took a hit and a half) and then drink orange juice. When I went through my first one, it scared the shit out of me.

—Altered Dave

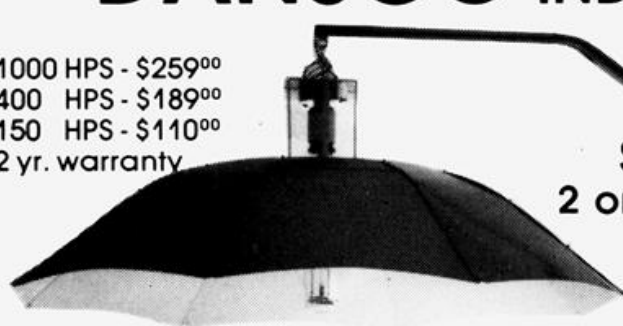
Moorpark, California

Back in the '60s, some heads used to drink orange juice to settle down a heavy trip, but this is the first we've heard of "altered states." Maybe our other readers can help us.

continued on page 28

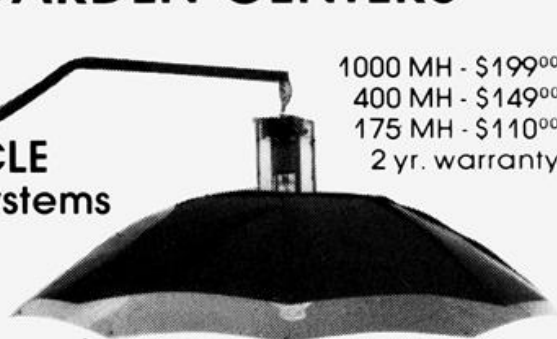
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2 yr. warranty



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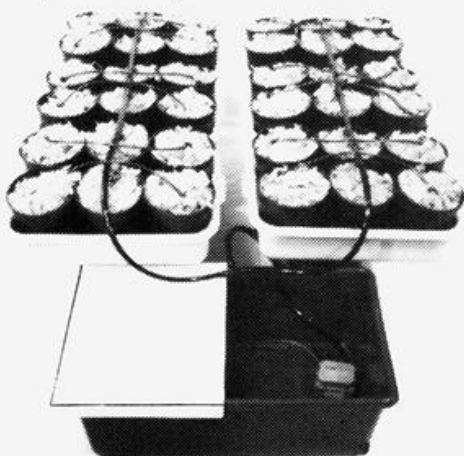
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175 MH - \$110⁰⁰
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HYDRO FLO I \$249.00 Expansion Module \$16.00

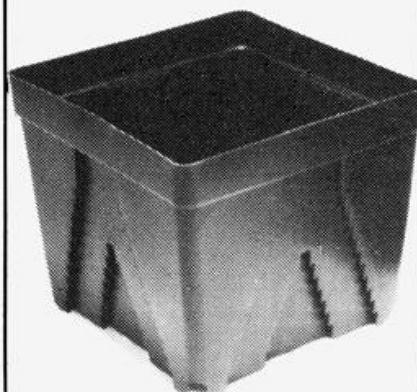
NEW Hydro Flo I includes 6 trays with 36 one gallon Pyramid pots, reservoir, timer, pump, rockwool, 12 week nutrient supply and pH Control Kit. Basic system covers 4' X 5' area for 10 - 12 week cycle. Double the size of this system for only \$96.00 more!

Larger pumps and reservoirs allow us to custom fit these systems to your needs.



PYRAMID POTS

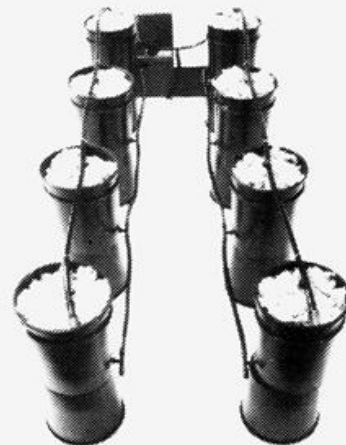
1 gallon (round) and 3 gallon (square) Pyramid pots provide exclusive "root pruning" feature which stimulates new root production for up to 250% more roots than other pots of equal size. Available in either white or black.



HYDRO CELL II \$209.00 Expansion Module \$6.00

Hydro Cell II includes 8 two gallon grow cells with reservoir, timer, pump, rockwool, 12 week nutrient supply and pH Control Kit. Recirculating system is easily expandable to 30 cells without increasing pump size or reservoir capacity!

Larger pumps and reservoirs allow us to custom fit these systems to your needs.



4' and 7' parabolic reflectors • light rails and tracks • horizontal mount light fixtures • guaranteed air filtration systems • ion generators • deodorizers • CO² generators • CO² injection systems • circulating fans • exhaust fans • inflatable exhaust tubing • dehumidifiers • timers (24 hr. multiple program, repeat cycle) • water timers • vinyl tubing • drip irrigation • hydro nutrients • pumps • nutrient heaters • pH pens • dissolved salts pens • temperature & humidity meters and controllers • scales • propagation mats • heating cables • rockwool cubes • rootcubes • new "root pruning" pots • clone domes • Pro-mix • Sunshine mix • loose rockwool • Gro-rox • bat guano • kelp • plant hormones • cloning aids • pH balancers • bloom boosters • 99% reflective mylar • white visqueen • greenhouses and accessories

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PHOTOTRON[®]

PIONEERS IN THE MODERN ERA OF RESEARCH ON THE MINERAL NUTRITION OF PLANTS...ONE OF THEM WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE



LUTHER BURBANK lived from 1849 to 1926, and not before or since has there been a greater contributor to plant development. Every domesticated fruit or vegetable or flower has been produced by Mr. Burbank directly or by his methodology.

Mr. Burbank's methodology was extremely simple: (1) First he would GATHER the most extensive seed stock of a particular species from all over the world. (2) Then he would PLANT all of the seeds closely together. From the resulting ten thousand plants, he would (3) SELECT one or two that had the most pronounced characteristic of size or shape or scent or color or whatever he was looking for. (4) From those one or two plants, all of the seeds were PLANTED and from the resulting ten thousand plants, only one or two would be (5) SELECTED that further developed more of the desired characteristic. This process of planting and selection would be repeated as often as necessary from a few generations to hundreds of generations until Mr. Burbank would release the final seed stock to the rest of the world.

Mr. Burbank grafted one hundred different types of apple branches onto a single apple tree and each branch bore a completely different fruit the first year for his personal selection. Inventing this grafting technique, he squeezed thousands of years

of research into a few. The results of his work, from potatoes to apples to EVERY domesticated fruit, vegetable or flower, are what we grow today. **The Burbank Potato Quadrupled World Production in One Year. Luther Burbank never needed a lot of space. In his lifetime he conducted over one hundred thousand series of experiments and changed the world on less than three acres of land.**



DENNIS ROBERT HOAGLAND, 1888-1949, was the inventor of the "four salt Hoagland solution" from which all HYDROPONICS are based. Although a brilliant botanist, Dr. Hoagland was interested in only one thing, the BIO-MASS (size and weight) of the TOMATO produced hydroponically. Working under the scientific assumptions of the early 1900s, Dr. Hoagland's world assumed four things:

A. Plants had a life cycle leading to death. **WE NOW KNOW** plants have a very different way of achieving a life and death cycle than does the human being. Humans are more genetically structured toward their life and death cycle than plants. Plants allow environmental factors to control not only their life and death cycle but their sex as well: Such things as (1) "PHOTOPERIOD" (length of time under light and dark), (2) "THERMO-PERIOD" (length of time under temperature variation), and most importantly (3) "NUTRIENT PERIOD" (length of time under a given nutrient configuration).

B. Maximum SIZE and WEIGHT before death of (a) root, (b) shoot, (c) fruit—known as the "root to shoot to fruit ratio"—was the absolute goal. **WE NOW KNOW** the "root to shoot to fruit ratio" is a fallacy. There is no such thing. While keeping

the fruit exactly the same size as normal, both the root (below the soil) and the shoot (above the soil) can be minimized. And by reducing the inter-nodal lengths* (distance between the budding sites from an average of 6 inches to less than 1 inch), the number of the normal sized fruit will increase to thousands per plant. (*Footnote: See inter-nodal length graph in "The Garden" brochure.)

C. Plant "lush feeding" of excess nutrients meant nothing. **WE NOW KNOW** plant "lush feeding" kills the plant. The basis of the hydroponic method is that a fresh nutrient supply be pumped in while the used nutrient supply drains out. This allows the plant to absorb excess amounts of calcium. If allowed, the plant will absorb 10 times what it requires of calcium to the exclusion of other more beneficial nutrients like N, P, K, Mg, Na, Cl, etc. Too much calcium and the plant gets GARDENING OF THE ARTERIES and dies after one seasonal growth period.

D. An aqueous (water) based system without a "buffer" (soil having a cation exchange capacity, C.E.C.) was best. **WE NOW KNOW** an aqueous (water) based nutrient solution surrounding the root system without a "buffer" to protect the roots creates a "water root"—a thick, fleshy root that has layered itself with "fat" to protect itself. Nowhere near the amount of root surface area is produced hydroponically (water based) as when the roots are buffered against excess concentrations by a soil medium.

WE NOW KNOW that the soil mediums used by Dr. Hoagland, such as perlite vermiculite, and sand have no buffering action or "CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY" (C.E.C.). The CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY of a soil medium is the ability of that medium to ABSORB AND RELEASE a nutrient solution. The cation exchange capacity of the soil medium protects the root system and allows it to produce thousands more root structures, producing thousands more square inches of root surface area. The greater the root surface area, the more efficient the nutrient uptake for faster growth.

The early 1900s did not have the advanced technology of 1986. Equipment for testing nutrient solutions and plant tissue such as the gas-liquid chromatographic assay (GLC), Thin-Layer chromatographic assay (TLC) and sophisticated atomic absorption equipment were not available.

With the aid of the computer since 1951, the medical profession by comparison has advanced in the last 30 years more than in the preceding 2,000 years. **If Dennis Robert Hoagland had access to 1986 technology in 1920, he never would have designed the hydroponic system.**



JEFFERY JULIAN DEMARCO, 1951-____, is President and founder of PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES and is the inventor of the methodology known as GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMETRICALLY and the PHOTOTRON.

Three things are required to grow plants pyraponimetrically: 1. A laboratory grade growth chamber known as the PHOTOTRON. 2. A specific METHODOLOGY for plant growth and manipulation (instructions). 3. A very specific NUTRIENT SUPPLY COMPUTER DESIGNED IN PARTS PER MILLION (PPM) for each individual PHOTOTRON. The exact nutrient calibrations are individually calibrated based upon two soil samples taken from the phototron: one after FORTY-FIVE DAYS of plant growth and one after 90 DAYS of plant growth—ONLY TWO ARE REQUIRED.

Mr. DeMarco's Masters thesis was on the cannabinoid profile of marijuana. After working under both federal and state license in a laboratory at a major university for over two years, and since 1976 has developed the phototron, the methodology and the chemistry to study the internal workings of the plant (not just the SIZE and WEIGHT, but ultimately important to study the MOLECULAR and PHARMACOLOGIC properties of the plant). The research developed in pursuit of Mr. DeMarco's

research PERTAINS TO ANY PLANT.

Pharmacognosy is the study of molecules produced inside plants. This type of study requires very sophisticated equipment like the Gas-Liquid Chromatogram (GLC), Thin-Layer Chromatogram (TLC) and Atomic Absorption.

THC-delta 9, the psychoactive molecule produced by the marijuana plant, is so microscopic that 100,000 molecules fit end to end would sit on the head of a pin. *When you're concerned about growing structures so infinitely tiny, what difference does the size of the plant make?*

In the disciplines of Botany, Horticulture, Plant Physiology, Soil Chemistry and Floraculture, a "root to shoot to fruit" ratio requires a large root and a large shoot to grow large fruit.

Growing plants Pyraponimetrically (by exactly measuring all 21 environmental elements), requires the plant to produce minimal root, minimal shoot (inter-nodal lengths) and maximize the number of budding sites and size of the bud, flower or fruit.

To develop the (A) PHOTOTRON, (B) the CHEMISTRY and (C) the plant manipulation methodology known as GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMETRICALLY, the marijuana plant was used because of its unique properties.

The PHOTOTRON was designed to: (1) GROW 6 PLANTS THREE AND ONE-HALF FEET TALL IN 45 DAYS; (2) Duplicate exactly the quality of the plant material the seed came from; (3) RE-FLOWER AND RE-BUD PLANT MATERIAL EVERY 45 DAYS UP TO 9 TIMES PER YEAR; (4) NEVER KILLING THE PLANTS, YEAR AFTER YEAR; (5) BE REMOVED FROM EVERY DAY. (The system is designed for plant removal, not containment); and (6) To produce 6-8 ounces of plant material every 45 days.

Growing Plants Pyraponimetrically will revolutionize indoor plant production as we know it today. At PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES, over 25 PHOTOTRONS are used for new experiments. To date, PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES have successfully catalogued 17 varieties of flowering plants, 14 varieties of fruits and vegetables, 8 varieties of tobacco and will force flower roses 365 days per year.

A year, or two years from now, PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES will mass market the PHOTOTRON through the major retailers, on television and radio. I will look forward to working with you. Thank you very much.

1-312-544- B-U-D-S

Jeffery Julian DeMarco
Jeffery Julian DeMarco
President and Founder Pyraponic Industries

OVER 15,000 PHOTOTRONS SOLD WORLDWIDE — INTRODUCING THE

PHOTOTRON 2

HAWAII VS THE PHOTOTRON

Hello, my name is Jeffery Demarco, President and Founder of PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES.

My master's thesis is on the cannabinoid profile of marijuana. I tell you this for historical footnote only.

In pursuit of my own master's thesis, I generated the most extensive popular literature library in the world. Then, I generated the most extensive scientific bibliography in the world. I then went into a laboratory under Federal license at a major university in which I designed a laboratory grade growth chamber called the PHOTOTRON.

If you read all of the popular literature: I did. All of the scientific literature: I did. And look at every apparatus that is in High Times, you will find one common denominator. Every system, UP TILL NOW, has attempted to re-create Hawaii. I suggest that when you finally achieve the re-creation of Hawaii, you can do NO BETTER than Hawaii's results. AND WHAT ARE HAWAII'S RESULTS?

In fact, you will grow the plant 6 to 9 months, 6 to 12 feet tall. In fact, you will average a 6-inch internodal length (distance between budding sites). In fact, have a 10% budding ratio at the tops of the plant. In fact, throw away 90% of the plant material (leaves/shake). And in fact, YOU MUST START ALL OVER AGAIN.

Look. The only thing I'm waiting nine months for is a baby, number one. Number two, I do not want a tree in my house. And number three, I am not going to pay the ELECTRIC BILL TO PRODUCE THE SUN somewhere in my closet. Do not let its pretty looks fool you. Do not let its size (3½ feet tall x 18 inches wide) fool you. Do not let its weight at 17 lbs. fool you.

The PHOTOTRON will draw \$4.00 per month in electricity (average). My system is totally different.

In fact, you will grow 6 plants three and one half feet tall in 45 days, guaranteed. You will maintain a one-inch internodal length, guaranteed. That each plant will produce 1,000 budding sites, FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, guaranteed. And there will be 6 plants per individual PHOTOTRON, guaranteed.

And this is the only system in the world where you can re-flower and re-bud the exact same plants every 45 days, up to nine times per year without killing them off. EVER. Then, you may re-flower and re-bud the exact same plants every 45 days up to nine times per year while you remove from the system every single solitary day. Every day (average 6-8 oz. every 45 days). You remove from the PHOTOTRON every single solitary day, beginning on day 20 from seed germination.

I, personally, guarantee and service back the PHOTOTRON, so do not let its technical nature throw you. You will require THREE PAGES OF INSTRUCTIONS ONLY. Because the system is TOTALLY COMPLETE. You will do three things: 1. Select your seed. 2. Plug the system in. 3. Water it.

Then, if you have any questions at all, you may call me direct. Ask your question. Get your answer. And carry on about your business. You cannot fail with my PHOTOTRON. I do not allow any of my PHOTOTRONS to fall below SHOW-CASE. I have personally guaranteed every PHOTOTRON that has ever been sold. And I have never had one returned. I am not starting now.

"If you do not learn more about plant production than you have ever learned before, I will pay you for the call."

Jeffery Julian De Marco



THE PHOTOTRON		NONE	24	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Halide Systems		50%	1	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
LIGHT	LEAF SELF SHADING										
	LINEAR FEET OF LIGHT										
	SPECTRUM ADJUSTABILITY										
	COMPUTER DESIGNED FOR EACH SYSTEM										
NUTRIENTS	GUARANTEE FEMALE SEX										
	NEVER KILLS THE PLANTS										
	ONE-INCH INTERNODAL LENGTHS — 1,000 BUDDING SITES PER PLANT										
	RE-FLOWER AND RE-BUD SAME PLANTS EVERY 45 DAYS UP TO 9 TIMES PER YEAR										
CO2	TOTALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT TO LEAF SATURATION										
	SERVICE HOT LINE FOR QUESTIONS										
SERVICE											

If you do not learn more about plant production than you have ever learned before, we will pay you for the call. CAN YOU AFFORD NOT TO CALL US. Or, send a \$3.00 money order for our brochure, "THE GARDEN—GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMENTRICALLY" to:

PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES, INC., P.O. BOX 1071, MELROSE PARK, IL 60160

* photograph presented from university conducted research for Masters Thesis entitled "Factors Controlling Resin-Production and Plant Growth," pertaining to any plant.

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PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES: GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMETRICALLY

PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES MAINTAINS: (1) The most extensive scientific literature library in the world. (2) The most extensive popular literature in the world. (3) The most extensive library of Data Packages and Soil Analysis selected from over 3,000 **PHOTOTRONS** sold worldwide. (4) On premises, over 25 **PHOTOTRONS** with the capacity of three shelves each so that up to 75 experiments may be ongoing at any one time. Jeffery Julian DeMarco, President and Founder of **PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES** and **PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES**, maintains his **PHOTOTRONS** for the purpose of killing plants. It is only after experimenting with the parameters of death at **PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES** that the **PHOTOTRON** can perform so miraculously around the world. Said to be the number 1 herbicidal maniac, Mr. DeMarco has full-time laboratory technicians on staff and has the most extensive technical consulting network for Universities around the world. **PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES** maintains the most sophisticated on-premises computerization for data analysis and retrieval in the world. Thousands of experiments have been conducted and thousands more will be ongoing to expand ever further the performance of each **PHOTOTRON**. As **PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES** introduces new methods or nutrient formulations, each **PHOTOTRON** owner is contacted so that every **PHOTOTRON** is upgraded long after it has been purchased. **THE PHOTOTRON IMPROVES MORE AND MORE THE LONGER YOU OWN IT!**

GROWTH PATTERN OF TOMATOES GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY



Young tomato plants in vegetative stage.



Young tomato plants beginning to flower and fruit.



Fruiting less than an inch apart.



"Normal" fruit development with a reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

GROWTH PATTERN OF CUCUMBERS GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY



Typical testing pattern by Pyraponic Laboratories depicting the morphological differences of cucumbers grown under identical conditions except one nutrient level.



Plants nearing top of Phototron in less than 30 days.



Plants filling the Phototron in less than 45 days.



Tremendous flowering and fruiting less than an inch apart.



"Normal" fruit development with a reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

HERBS, VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY



Herbal garden at 65 days of Parsley, Sage, Basil, Oregano, Thyme and Chive.



The hottest jalapa pepper grown anywhere in the world.



Laboratory experiment producing complete root systems on the stem structures of flowering marigolds.



"Normal" marigold flower size produced with reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

GROWTH PATTERNS OF ZINIAS AND SNAPDRAGONS GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY



Day 44: Phototron jammed with flowering zinnias.



Day 52: "Normal" zinia flower size produced with reduced root-to-shoot ratio.



Day 46: Phototron jammed with flowering snapdragons.



Day 58: "Normal" snapdragon flower size produced with reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

BUST CITY

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Recent drug sweeps here have netted an interesting assortment of people — respected college professor Lowell Matson, *HIGH TIMES* contributing editor Carlo McCormick, and Dana Beal (best known to *HIGH TIMES*' readers as the former head of the Yippies). The nature of these arrests, as well as the character of the people who have been arrested, point to an ugly trend in the city.

Lowell Matson, the 65-year-old head of the speech and drama department at Wagner College in Staten Island, was arrested June 9th, 1987, for growing marijuana indoors. Acting on an anonymous phone tip, four narcotics officers searched his home and found 62 plants under a 14-foot long automatic lighting system. After police arrested him, Matson quoted several lines from Shakespeare, and muttered the immortal line "much ado about nothing."

A few days later, he handed in his resignation. Acting college president Carlyle Haaland called the arrest a "deep personal tragedy," and praised the accomplishments of Matson, saying that his theater productions not only brought the college national praise and recognition, but also helped the school increase enrollment.

Carlo McCormick was caught in one of the "Operation Pressure Point" raids on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. He was pulled out of a taxi by four plainclothes detectives without an arrest warrant or probable cause. When police searched McCormick and found a joint, he was taken to several precincts and held for 48 hours. Of course, no one read him his rights, and by the time his misdemeanor case was brought up to arraignment, he was released. The purpose of these Operation Pressure Point busts is supposed to be to clear the addicts and hardcore, hard drug dealers out of the neighborhood, but the result seems to be that mainly nonthreatening drug users get the hardcore treatment, while the heroin and coke dealers keep multiplying — along with the muggings.



ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN HOLMSTROM

Dana Beal's arrest is a lot more serious. Dana, who has appeared in *HIGH TIMES* over the years both as a writer and as head of the Yippies, was arrested and charged with possession of eight pounds of pot with intent to sell, a Class C felony. After the arrest, which took place in uptown Manhattan, police went downtown and raided the offices of GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNS at 9 Bleecker, a media cooperative of several radical political groups. Grassroots Campaigns is a new, multi-issue organization trying to do marijuana politics in a new way. It seeks to legitimize the pot issue within other progressive movements. The offices were virtually torn apart. A photographer taking pictures of the police action had his film ruined when a DEA agent removed it from his camera — even though the arrest was conducted by the state police. Dana Beal said, "Considering what was taken,

which was our most active file of people who wrote in to the impeachment movement, it's hard to believe it was anything other than a political raid."

Dana Beal, a radical activist, has been well known to the federal government for many years. Anyone who has followed his political career would understand why the feds would want to nail him. Recently, he led a demonstration in Washington against Ed Meese and his cohorts at the DEA.

Grassroots Campaigns is still in business, and the ACLU is working to get the seized files back. If you wish to support Grassroots and Dana Beal, send some money to: Grassroots, P.O. Box 392, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013. You can send cash, a check or money order made out to Alice Torbush. ●

AMAZING COMPUTER SHOW

The Amiga, a powerful computer capable of producing amazing psychedelic graphics, has to be seen to be believed. It's capable of animating three-dimensional images, yet costs less than an IBM PC. The first-ever AmiExpo, "The Amiga Event," will give Amiga owners, or anyone curious to get a closer look at this amazing computer, the chance to check out everything it can do. The first AmiExpo will be held in New York City from October 10-12, 1987, and additional shows are planned for Chicago and San Francisco. For information, call (800) 32-AMIGA. ●



THE GREAT MIDWEST HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Great Midwest Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday, September 27, 1987, at the State Street Mall in Madison, Wisconsin. The highlight of the festival will be a parade to the state capitol grounds at 1:30, to protest the current marijuana laws. The festival kicks off with a seminar on advanced growing techniques, by Ed Rosenthal, on the 26th at the state university. A few years ago, the Great Midwest Harvest Festival was the target of an airlift of joints, but no such spectacular stunt has been promised for this year. ●



The kings of "biz-rock," the V.P.s, are poisoning rock'n'roll with yuppie ideology.

ROCK'N'ROLL YUPPIES

by The General

DAMN THOSE YUPPIES! First they take over all the nightclubs (which isn't so bad, since none of them are very good), but now they've gone too far. Far too far. Recently a band premiered at the Saint, formerly the Fillmore East, that was made up entirely of businessmen. That's right, an all-yuppie band called the V.P.s. Each band member either has an M.B.A. in business or finance. On the sur-

face, it may seem horrible, but wait, it gets worse. Cover versions of songs are changed to reflect yuppie tastes. "Secret Agent Man" is now "Madison Avenue Man." "Love Potion Number Nine" is now "Stock Broker on the Line." What's next? All-yuppie heavy metal bands?

If these yups want to be the new Beatles, we should be the new Three Stooges. The next time you see a yuppie rock star, poke their eye out, step on their feet, and conk them over the head with a mallet. The only good yuppie is one with a broken skull. ●

COMMIES SHOCKED BY AMERICAN DRUG USE

by John Holmstrom

J. W. Canty, chairman of the Soviet-U.S. Joint Conference on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction, showed three Soviet experts on alcoholism the exciting sights and sounds of New York City. But this was no ordinary tourist gig—publicity surrounding the Soviets' "no-holds-barred" fact-finding mission focused on the "terrible" problems of drugs and alcohol in America. During a visit to Shea Stadium, Dr. Katerina Menshikova was disgusted by the fans' behavior during the game. "We were shocked to find all the drinking and we heard a few words that aren't in an English-Russian dictionary," she said. "In Russia, drinking is forbidden at sport games."

In another incident, the Commies were taken to Bryant Park. They were totally outraged to see people selling drugs out in the open. "As soon as we walked in the park," Menshikova told the New York Daily News, "a man jumped up and said, 'Do you want to smoke?' and offered us some packages of marijuana. I was very surprised and didn't answer. He looked and saw there were five of us and said, 'Don't worry, I have enough for all of you.'"

Another of the Russian doctors was horrified by the sight of bums getting loaded on cheap wine. "The things we are seeing are terrible," said Dr. Konstantin Voronin. "This is very bad. I do not feel safe here."

Their tour guide, J. W. Canty, apparently agreed with the Communists. "There is nothing like this in Russia. Public drinking is prohibited there," he said. "You never see people drinking or using drugs in Gorky Park in Moscow."

The Russian doctors proudly talked about the Soviet crackdown on alcohol use. Since 1985, the drinking age in Russia was raised from 18 to 21, the government slashed production of vodka and other booze, and heavy penalties have been imposed on public drinking. "Alcoholism is a major problem in my country; but drugs are not a problem there," said Dr. Andrey Vroublevsky. "We have no problem with cocaine—not yet."

Actually the Russians have big problems with alcohol (and are beginning to experience problems with drugs) in their society. But since there's no free speech in the Soviet Union, they're able to hide these "counter-revolutionary" difficulties. In the United States, drug and alcohol problems become the target of a sensationalism-oriented news media. Bums, derelicts, and street people are just the price we have to pay to live in a free, open society. Let's hope it stays that way. ●

CLUB MEDICATION

CARRIE FISHER, of STARS WARS fame, has written a soon-to-be-released novel—POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE—that describes her experiences in a drug rehabilitation facility. She was treated for addiction to LSD and the pain-killer Percodan.

Fisher, who entered the treatment center after her 11-month marriage to Paul Simon fell apart, is the daughter of Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher—who also suffered from the disease of addiction. Genetic predisposition is now thought to make people with a family history of drug abuse and/or alcoholism more susceptible to becoming addicts and alcoholics than those without the disease in their family backgrounds.

According to one report, Fisher's involvement with drugs apparently began when she buddied around with SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE's early star, the late John Belushi. In his book, WIRED, Bob Woodward says that Fisher and Belushi indulged in cocaine and opium. Belushi died of an overdose in 1982.

Fisher should be applauded for her willingness to share her experience, for in so doing, she is helping other addicts understand the nature of their problem. ●

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...?

Remember that scumbag, Spiro T. Agnew? For those of you who don't, he was Nixon's self-righteous vice president before being forced to resign from office in 1973 after pleading no contest to charges that he accepted bribes while he was Maryland's governor, and later when he was vice president. He recently filed a federal lawsuit that contains a wealth of information on what he's been up to since then.

Agnew filed a civil lawsuit against an Argentine firm, Alicanto S.A., charging that the firm burnt him out of more than \$2 million in commissions. He said in the deposition that while on business trips to South America in 1980, he met with leaders of the South American military junta to help gain military contracts for his international clients. He further contends that he acted as middleman in consummating an arms deal, supplying Argentina with military equipment from an American firm. The lawsuit also charges that officials working for the American military contractor and its Argentine business partners paid \$3.6 million in bribes that were passed on to the former head of Argentina's air force to secure a \$57 million military contract.

The catch to the whole deal is that Agnew's lawsuit indicates that his dealings with Argentina were in direct violation to a law against providing any military equipment, advice, or assistance to the Argy government because of its human rights violations. The restriction on military aid was instituted in 1978, and was in effect until December 1983.

Agnew's lawyer, Robert Knapp, Jr., said his client was unaware of the U.S. ban on military sales, and said, "I thought there was a ban only on Communist nations." ●

SON OF SATAN?

DAVID BERKOWITZ, convicted for the "Son of Sam" shootings of 13 people (six were fatally wounded) in New York City ten years ago, may not have acted alone. A new book, *THE ULTIMATE EVIL* by Maury Terry, claims that Berkowitz was a member of a Satanic cult whose members participated in the design and execution of the murders. Terry isn't the only one who believes Berkowitz was not the sole perpetrator of the killings. Queens District Attorney John J. Santucci has reopened the case, and Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman is being asked to reopen the case as well.

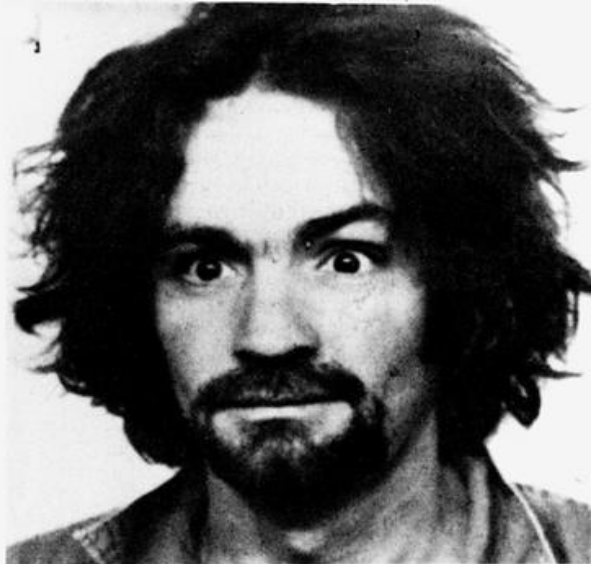
Harry Lipsig, a Manhattan attorney involved in bringing a civil suit against Berkowitz in connection with the shootings, interviewed Berkowitz in prison in January 1982. "He sat there in terrified tension and testified under oath that he was only one of a group of 22—a group

intent on murder and crimes of violence," said Lipsig.

A handwriting expert has declared that the Son of Sam letters, which were printed in the media and fueled mass fear in New York during the 1976-1977 murder spree, were not written by Berkowitz.

Neysa Moskowitz, mother of victim Stacy Moskowitz, has reported being attacked several times by men who "looked very collegiate" after she appeared on television with Terry in support of his book. She claims that her attackers cut Xs on her body and forced her to drink her own blood. When she spat it in their faces, they slugged her.

Because of evidence never released from both the Queens and the Brooklyn District Attorneys' offices, the conclusion of the handwriting analysis, and eight years of research done by Terry, there seems to be plenty of grounds for more thorough investigation. ●



THE ULTIMATE EVIL links Manson to a Son of Sam satanic cult.

UFO MANIA

by Colin Miner

LAST NOVEMBER, a Japanese Airline pilot spotted a large aircraft twice the size of an aircraft carrier following his plane. The U.S. Government has covered up the story with the usual tissue of lies.

Kenjyu Terauchi, the pilot, spotted the UFO at 35,000 feet above the Beaufort Sea off the Alaskan coast. The UFO followed Terauchi's plane to 31,000 feet, then disappeared a few minutes later. Flight controllers who were on duty that night for both the FAA and the United States Air Force reported seeing unidentified blips on their radar screens at the same time, and in the same place, that Terauchi saw the UFO. U.S. Government investigators from the Air Force and the FAA reviewed the tapes of that night, but reportedly found nothing. They claim that whatever the flight controllers, Terauchi, and his flight crew saw that night was nothing more than "clutter." As for Terauchi's report that he not only saw the unidentified craft on radar, but with his own two eyes, the U.S. investigators offered no clear explanation.

The government's explanation of the events might have been quickly accepted and forgotten, except that a book about to be published in England, "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Coverup," lends credibility to Terauchi's assertion that he did not see "clutter," but an extraterrestrial spacecraft. Written by one of Britain's leading experts on unidentified flying objects, Timothy Good, the book focuses on a secret U.S. committee, Majestic-12, set up by President Harry Truman to investigate reports of UFOs. According to the book, Majestic-12 investigated reports of crashes of UFOs, and, if they turned out to be true, covered them up. The book's most startling charge is that, more often than not, the reports of UFOs did turn out to be true.

The book spends a lot of time discussing what has become known as the Roswell Incident. In 1947, a farmer in Roswell, New Mexico called the government, saying he had seen a UFO that had crashed in the desert. According to the

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The General receives his lava lamp.

HIGHWITNESS NEWS UPDATE

Here's the latest scoop on stories that have appeared in the past few issues.

● **HOWARD STERN VS. THE FCC**—Howard's TV deal was killed by Fox Broadcasting, apparently over the furor created by the FCC. Stern is a victim of the idiotic, moralistic hysteria

that's gripping the country. However, people are now becoming aware that much of the pressure to "clean up the media" comes from TV evangelists. After our call for a campaign against TV evangelists, we heard from Fundamentalists Anonymous (FA), an organization formed in 1985 to aid people whose lives have been destroyed by their addiction to religious fundamentalism and their adherence to the fire and brimstone morality and politics employed by fundamentalist leaders, such as TV evangelists. If you need information on how to stop this terrible plague which has ruined so many lives, write to: Fundamentalists Anonymous, P.O. Box 20324, Greeley Square Station, New York, NY 10001.

● **MICHAEL SERGIO**, the daredevil who was jailed for parachuting into Shea Stadium during the World Series, was released after a few weeks as a result of pressure from the media and the public.

● **THE GENERAL**, a HIGH TIMES contributing editor, won the "air-surfing" contest at the latest Mind's Eye event. Contestants had to pretend-surf to beach music to win. We're not sure if air-surfing will replace air-guitar, but if it does, remember—you read it here first! ●

HOPELESS HOPE

Leave it to an aging, boring "comedian" like Bob Hope to jump on America's anti-drug hysteria and use it to blatantly boost his career. Hope (or rather his "people," since Bob is a doddering old coot who can barely walk without someone holding him up) has organized the Hope for a Drug Free America Foundation. Its stated goal is to "bring the finest minds and skills of the greatest nation on earth to bear on the oldest and most terrible curse of mankind—drugs."

Naturally, "the vehicle" for the Foundation is an annual television special—"A mini-telethon on the eve of professional football's Super Bowl that will reach over a hundred million homes, with the greatest stars from sports and entertainment as the attraction—hard information on drug abuse as the message."

The Foundation's board of directors are big

names like Walter Cronkite, Lee Iacocca, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, Charlton Heston, Tom Selleck, James Stewart, Grant Tinker, Pete Rozelle, Peter Ueberroth, and Dr. C. Everett Koop. The Foundation's stated goals are to immediately raise \$100 million in donations, and to wipe out the "drug epidemic in this country by the end of the century." ●



IT'S NO USE!!!—Despite their best efforts, federal law-enforcement officials are seizing “relatively little” of the coke, pot, and other illegal drugs smuggled into the U.S., according to a report prepared by the General Accounting Office.

A.M.A HAS ITS SAY—The American Medical Association released a report on June 25 that says employees should be tested for drugs only when there is reasonable suspicion of impaired job performance, or when the prospective employee's job would affect the health and safety of others.

AS CREEPY AS ABC—Capital Cities/ABC has a weird remedy for their sliding ratings—they are instituting drug testing for pot, coke, opiates, Valium, Librium, PCP, amphetamines, and barbiturates for all incoming full-time staff. “If an applicant fails the test,” said an ABC spokesperson, “he or she will be considered unsuitable for employment by any unit of the company for a period of six months.”

IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT—According to the Writer's Guild of America, women hold less than 20 percent of all TV- and film-writing jobs, minorities hold under 3 percent, and writers under 40 have virtually no chance at all. “The situation is absolutely unacceptable and soul breaking,” said WGA executive director Brian Walton.

COKE IS NOT IT—According to a report in the WALL STREET JOURNAL, cocaine use is declining. Other finding of the JOURNAL report: Although fewer people are using coke, people who use it are doing more of it, and coke is becoming a lower-class drug. “Freebasing and crack have changed the nature of cocaine,” William Moffitt of NORML told the JOURNAL.

GIMME A SHOT—A 23-year-old, broken-hearted guy, drunk and desperate over a failed romance, offered some guy at the bar 50 bucks to shoot him. He obliged. The unidentified man was treated and released from Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan, for a gunshot wound in the leg. The gunman was paid by the victim, but police doubt they'll ever find him.



DEADHEAD???—New York's famous subway vigilante, Bernard Goetz, is a Grateful Dead fanatic! The first thing he wanted to do after his trial was pick up a copy of their newest LP, “In the Dark.”

GRANDMAS IN BOOZE BUST—Two sisters in their 60s, Mattie Harper and Mary Alice Garth, were busted for illegal possession of five gallons of bootleg whiskey and 12 cases of beer. According to Sheriff Mike Blakely, Harper didn't even charge some customers because, as she said, “I get so lonely; I sell it so people will come to see me.”

AIDS JUST A SCARE?—Although health experts still caution heterosexuals to follow safe sex practices, the chance for middle-class heteros catching the virus are very limited. According to Polly Thomas, New York City Health Department's director of AIDS surveillance, “Many males initially report that they contacted the disease as a result of heterosexual contacts, but when you investigate those more closely, they turn out to be cases involving homosexual contact or IV drug use.”

GORE GALORE—Albert Gore, the Tennessee Democrat whose wife makes Nancy Reagan look like a wild party animal in comparison, has announced his candidacy. Remember Tipper Gore, crusader against obscene rock lyrics and dirty movies? Well, if her husband wins the election, look forward to at least four more years of misery from those moralistic shitheads.

HEY JERRY! WHAT'S THE STORY—Jerry Garcia told SPIN magazine, “Drugs are one of those things everybody has to decide for himself. I've learned lots from drugs, and I think life would be terribly dull without them.”

FAT-TESTING STINKS—A study two years ago found that half of the 5,000 labs in the country mismeasured a standard cholesterol sample by an average of 5 percent, with occasional results 100 percent off the mark!!! According to experts, the cholesterol market, worth a cool one billion clamshells a year, needs to be regulated.

MIDAS MARCOS—Former Philippine prez, Ferdy Marcos, claims to have stashed away 1000 tons of gold worth over \$14 billion. That would be around 74,000 bricks, enough to build five gold houses (the average-size house uses about 15,000 bricks). Fun fact: That's nearly 35 times as many bars of gold as Imelda had shoes.

KILL A DRUGGIE FOR JESUS—According to Los Angeles police, a mother reportedly stabbed her daughter to death during an argument over the girl's crack use. “They had been having trouble for a long time—the girl had run away, she didn't go to school,” a detective said. “The mother just went overboard.” Maureen Belle, 32, was arrested on suspicion of murder in the killing of Natasha Blacklock, 16.

WHAT, ME WORRY?—Stress is a figment of the imagination, according to Prof. Ian Webster of the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. He claims people use stress as an excuse for failures or problems at home or work. “Stress,” Webster says, “causes people to worry about symptoms they would not notice when happy or buoyant.”

WATCH OUT!—That's right, watch out! The PMRC (Parents' Music Resource Center) is still at it. They're attacking rock music on the grounds that certain songs don't promote “safe sex,” and they released “Rising to the Challenge,” a 27-minute tape which “details some of the more wretched excesses” in rock music, according to a rave review in TV Guide. Concerned parents can order the tape by mail from Teen Vision, Inc., Box 4505, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, for \$41.50. Rock groups looking for publicity can send their most shocking videos to that address. The more shocking the video, the more likely the PMRC will want to promote it. ●



QUIK TEST, QUICK FIX—The Food and Drug Administration recently approved a new drug test, the KDI Quik Test Marijuana Screen. Marketed by the Keystone Medical Corporation, it differs from conventional drug tests in that the procedure works like a home pregnancy test, using a screen that changes color within three minutes if a urine sample contains traces of the THC metabolite. Test kits will be available to doctors, hospitals, police, and prisons by this fall.



GO-GO GIRL OF THE MONTH

STEVE SANDS

WHAT DO biker chick Sweet Pea, TV evangelist Polly Anne, and Raven, the raunchy singer of a heavy metal rock group, have in common? They're just three of the many faces of ANN MAGNUSON, the hot performance artist praised by NEW YORK MAGAZINE for her "gleeful talent for parody." Magnuson gained national attention by playing 30 characters in 15 minutes in the video short MADE FOR TV, which aired on PBS in 1986.

She first presented her creations in New York City's East Village, where she was instrumental in creating the East Village art scene, which degenerated into to-

day's psychedelic garage scene. Around the HIGH TIMES office, Magnuson is remembered for her expose of TV evangelists, which appeared in our December '85 issue.

Last summer, she showcased her gallery of pop culture characters in an edition of CINEMAX's comedy series—"Ann Magnuson's Vandemonium." She had a starring role in Susan Seidelman's MAKING MR. RIGHT, appeared in East Village filmmaker Sara Driver's latest release, SLEEPWALK, and will be seen in the soon-to-be-released JIMMY REARDON.

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book, the government found more than a spacecraft—four dead bodies of alien crew members were among the wreckage.

The book makes frequent references to a newly discovered top secret document that recounts a classified briefing to President Eisenhower from CIA director Hillenkoetter on the incident. The authenticity of the document, however, has not been proven. The document states that the UFO uproar of the '40s and '50s started in the following fashion:

"On 24 June, 1947, a civilian pilot flying over the Cascade Mountains in the state of Washington observed nine flying disc-shaped aircraft traveling in formation at a high rate of speed." Although this was not the first known sighting of such objects, it was the first to gain widespread attention in the public media.

Very little in the way of actual proof came about until the "Roswell Incident." As the document states: "In spite of these efforts, little of substance was learned about the objects until a local rancher reported that one had crashed in a remote region of New Mexico located approximately seventy-five miles northwest of Roswell Army Air Base" (now Walker Field).

The most startling part of the document came a couple of paragraphs later: "On 07 July, 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small, humanlike beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreck site. All four were dead and badly decomposed, due to action by predators and exposure

to the elements during the approximately one-week time period which had elapsed before their discovery."

As if the emergence of this document wasn't enough, it now appears that UFO believers will be getting some help from the late Jackie Gleason. A book written by his ex-wife, due out in the fall, reports that in the early '70s, Mr. Gleason was taken by then-president Nixon to a secret Air Force Base where the bodies of the four aliens were being kept. Aides to the ex-president have issued a firm "no comment" to the story.

The major hitch in all of this has to do with the authenticity of the document. The general consensus appears to be that the document is a forgery. A government employee believes that if a document did exist, it would not resemble the document that has surfaced. ●

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HIGHWITNESS NEWS

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ARMY WINS LSD WAR

The Supreme Court ruled that a former Army sergeant has no legal right to sue for damages after being dosed with acid during secret chemical warfare experiments.

Former Master Sgt. James Stanley, 53, volunteered to be one of 4,000 human guinea pigs given LSD and mescaline in what he thought was a test of gas masks and protective gear. In 1958, on four different occasions, he was given water laced with LSD.

Stanley now says his Army-inspired acid trips led to the breakup of his marriage, and left him unable to work or think coherently. He left the military in 1969, but didn't learn about the tests until 1975, when the Army looked him up for a follow-up study. He sued the Army in 1978, but is now at a legal dead end.

The Supreme Court decision was close: five to four, and the case bitterly divided the court. Justice William Brennan compared the Army's secret experiments to those of the Nazis in World War II. "Soldiers ought not to be asked to defend a Constitution indifferent to their essential human dignity," he declared. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said, "Conduct of the type alleged in this case is so far beyond the bounds of human decency that, as a matter of law, it simply cannot be considered a part of the military mission." But the majority opinion, in Justice Antonin Scalia's words, believed that allowing Stanley's lawsuit to proceed would "disrupt the military regime." ●

EAST BERLIN —ILLINOIS

Leave your M-16 rifles at home if you're planning to cruise in the "Land of Lincoln." Ditto for drugs and open containers of alcohol. The Illinois State Police have been conducting regular surprise inspections since the Illinois Supreme Court upheld their constitutionality in 1985.

Last summer, 3,640 drivers were subjected to a "safety check" between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. on Interstate 55 between St. Louis and Chicago. "This is the first time (in Illinois) that troopers have ever closed the main traffic lanes of a major interstate highway and temporarily detoured traffic into a rest area for the purpose of safety inspection," State Police Director Jeremy Margolis said in a statement. Someone should do a safety inspection on the Bill of Rights.

Thirty-five troopers and three police dogs (police dogs for a "safety inspection"?) collared 83 people for traffic-related arrests, 20 arrests for seat belt violations, 41 arrests for illegal transportation or possession of alcohol (many of these were Cardinals fans enroute to cheer their team against the Cubs), five arrests for possession of marijuana, four for people wanted on outstanding warrants, one for possession of a hypodermic syringe, one arrest for DWI, and one arrest for carrying concealed weapons (three handguns and an M-16). ●

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DEALING? SEE HIGH TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

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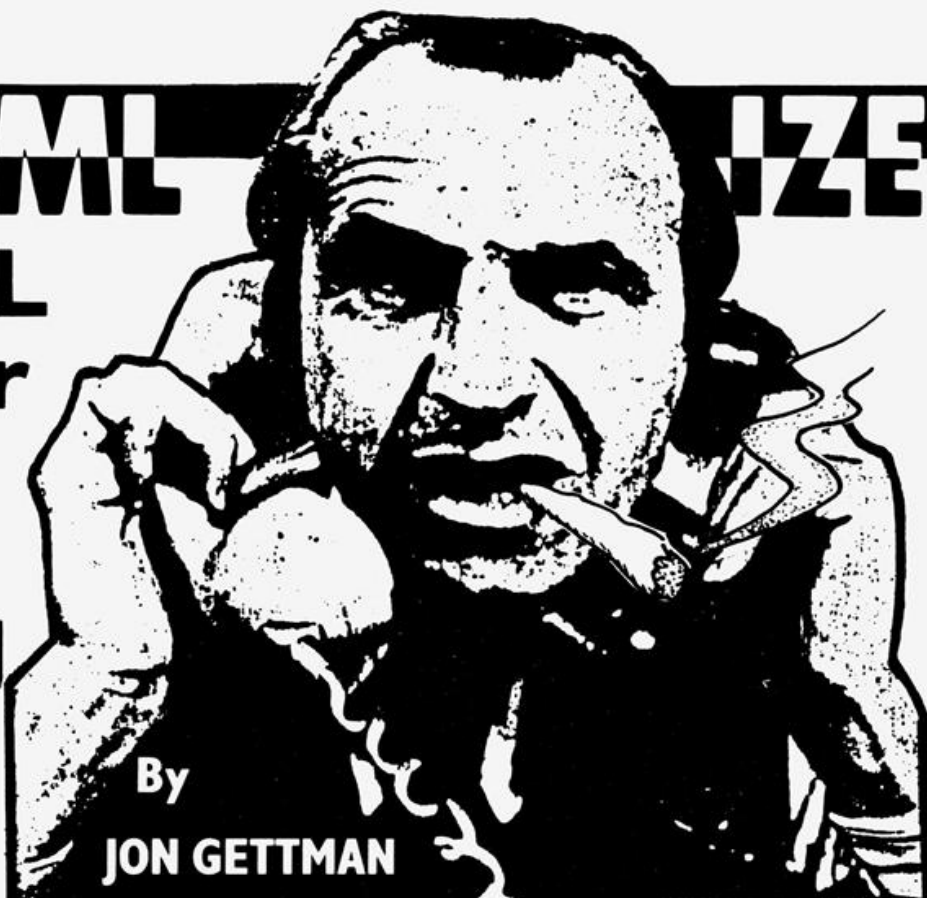
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NORM

IZER

NORM director admits he gets “stoned on the job”!!



By
JON GETTMAN

One of the funniest arguments against legalizing marijuana is that more people would use it if it were legal. I used to disagree, on the theory that the law isn't much of a deterrent. **However I've changed my mind.** Whoever makes an argument like that implies that marijuana has attractive qualities, and that if people were left alone they would take advantage of what marijuana has to offer them. So from now on, my response to that argument will be to agree, and add, **"Wouldn't that be great!"**

Let's face it—people smoke marijuana because they like it. **We think it's a wonderful drug.** I've consumed marijuana for 15 years and, I must say, am proud of it. More to the point, I'm proud to be associated with all the people I've met who also like to use marijuana. Marijuana smokers are wonderful people. They are generally kind, considerate, humane, caring, hardworking, imaginative, and above all else, principled people.

As a group of people we have our own examples of the southern end of a north-bound horse. And for that matter, a lot of people use marijuana who don't think of themselves as being **"pot smokers."** The ones who do, who **"love to smoke pot,"** I've personally found to be **wonderful** people. Wouldn't it be nice if there were **more** of them?

Avid marijuana smokers develop a heightened sense of irreverence. Little is taken as being straightforward. Just as hip

humor from Lenny to Screaming Sam knows no taboo, the high frame of mind roams around questioning everything. We've learned not to take ourselves so seriously that we lose our sense of perspective. Getting high is **not** about fuzzing the brain. That's what **beer's** for. Getting high is about **awareness.**

Why do people smoke marijuana? It provides them a sense of satisfaction that becomes a **positive** force in their lives. The common explanation is "I smoke a joint after work to relax." It's an accurate observation. Marijuana's medical effects include relief from aches, pains, and cramps and its effect on the mind disrupts the subject's train of thought. That's where the **awareness factor** comes into play.

One goal of after-work relaxation is to **forget** about work for a little while. **Lt. Col. Ollie North**, clearly, is **not** a pot smoker. When someone concentrates on something for a long period of time, their mind becomes very engaged. Constant obsession is **bad** for anyone's mental health, and a key tool in coping with the industrialized world is learning how to devote one's attention to **more than one thing.** Lt. Col. North, for example, knew one world and one ethic: **the world of his job.** His total immersion, and his lack of any counterweight to its perceptual influence, was his tragic flaw.

The stoned mind has no train of thought. It is, however, capable of **di-**

rected thought. My columns are an example—most are outlined and drafted, if not finished, **while I am high.** A train of thought is stuck in its tracks; it develops in a predictable fashion. The stoned mind abandons the train and hops into a spaceship that can travel in any direction, in any dimension. It can hover about a plane of creative bursts, or cruise an arc through several broad concepts or simply follow the old train of thought, pausing to explore each whistlestop along the way.

The stoned mind wanders a lot. With practice, this eventually enables the nonstoned mind to use its imagination more effectively. This is a source of power, and this explains why people love to smoke marijuana. **(And why it bugs the powers that be.)**

Smoking marijuana is not something that should be taken too frivolously, but neither should it be taken too seriously. Many people justify their marijuana use by claiming their use is religious. **Perhaps it is.** I believe in a political right of self-determination that is even more fundamental than a right to freedom of religion. But the fact remains that many, many marijuana smokers enjoy getting high, and that enjoyment gives them **spiritual satisfaction** which is a source of **spiritual power.** Others may not approve of this, but who cares what they think? **This is America,** they need to learn to mind their own business—it's something we call tolerance. ●

TRANS-HIGH QUOTATIONS MARKET

Send quotations to: THMQ, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. THMQ is intended solely for informational purposes. All entries should be typed or neatly written. If you are unable to compose a legible entry after testing your samples, please wait until you have control of your penmanship before sending us your information. Marijuana is listed by 1/4-ounce, ounce, and pound prices only. Don't bother sending prices for hard drugs. Prices in this issue are current as of July 15th, 1987.

MAJOR MARKETS

Atlanta, GA	Expando Pot, green with red hairs, tight buds, "expands your lungs, an excellent high"	1/4-oz	40
		oz	150
		1/2-lb	730
	Chamblee Smoke, green, red-haired buds, "great, stone, worth your money"	1/4-oz	40
Chicago, IL		oz	150
		1/4-lb	350
	Cedar Town Weed, red-haired buds, "musty taste can be taken away with Celestial Seasonings tea-bags, good high"	1/4-oz	40
		oz	150
Las Vegas, NV		lb	1200
	Acid, "one hit will get you"	hit	5
	Indoor Skunk, "tastes harsh, but gets you all the way there"	1/4-oz	45
	Moroccan, "fresh, excellent"	gm	10
	Puna Buds, "rare"	oz	400
	Kona John, sticky and moist, "the best"	oz	300
		lb	2500-3000
	Hash plant seeds	ea	5
	Coke, 90% pure, "less and less users"	oz	1500

AROUND THE U.S.

Akron, Ohio	Tri-state Bud, "who's been sitting on this?"	1/4-oz	25-30
		oz	100 & up
	Garbage brown, "where do they grow this shit—sore throat herb, stay away"	1/4-oz	25-40
		oz	100-160
Chesnut Ridge, PA	CA indica skunk, "still here, surprise"	1/4-oz	70
	Mexican Sinse, "some great, most not that great; one variety with green, tight buds with a taste of Santa Marta bow—excellent"	1/4-oz	25-50
		1/4-lb	350
	Mexican sinse, red-haired	1/4-oz	35
Cleveland, OH	Unidentified sinse, "very good, local"	oz	120
		1/4-oz	35
	Skunk buds, "very tasty"	1/4-oz	50
	Shrooms, both fresh and dry, very big, each cap is 5-8 gms., "very good"	gm	3-6
	Acid, all kinds	hit	3-5
	Huge buds grown in South Carolina, "excellent"	1/4-oz	35
		oz	110
		1/4-lb	400

Coronado, CA	Jamaican brick, goopy bud mass, "makes you hungry, then sleepy, primo"	1/4-oz	50
		oz	175
		1/4-lb	650
	Shrooms	2-gms	15
Kent State, OH		1/4-oz	35
	Afghani/Colombian, "B.B. buds, fasten your seat belt"	oz	300
	Afghani/Thai, loose buds but very, very sticky; "one of my best"	oz	300
	Homegrown sinse, "leg-sized colas"	oz	200
	Indica/sativa, "too potent for me"	1/4-lb	425
		oz	225
		lb	2000
	Hawaiian sinse, "lately it's been very light green and sticky, sticky, sticky; always excellent"	oz	250
	Thai buds, assorted hybrids, "pretty good re-creation for being grown in CA"	oz	250
		gm	5
	Mushrooms fresh from Oregon, "inconsistent supply"	oz	180
		lb	1500
	Afghani-indica, "paralyzing and expanding—the best"	1/4-oz	75
	Local indoor indica, "excellent taste and stone"	1/4-oz	60
	Jamaican, "o.k. to good"	1/4-oz	35
		oz	125
	South African, "wild sativa with different but nice high"	1/4-oz	35
		oz	120
	Local sativas, "green but immature"	1/4-oz	35
	Brown weeds, "o.k."	1/4-oz	30
	Shrooms, cubensis, "good and strong, fast tolerance though"	oz	130
	LSD blotters include Medieval Symbols, Globes, Stars (black, gold, purple), hearts—"most were pure, not super strong, but good"	hit	3-4
		100	200 and up

Libertyville, IL	Brown, non-commercial "Buttered Pretzels" weed	1/4-oz	30
		oz	100
	Orange 'Lumbo, "I dunno what they grow anymore, I just smoke it"	1/4-oz	30
		1/4-lb	325
Mission Viejo, CA	Donkey Schlöng skunk buds, "sticky and moist, very pungent aromas"	1/4-oz	50
		1/4-lb	450
	Shrooms, tried growing 'em, but no good; need them bad"	oz	180
	Hawaiian, smells like fresh pine-apples, one-toke, hard to find, "da crypt"	oz	180
	Thai, lots, "dry but stoney"	1/4-oz	35
		oz	140-150
	Sinsemilla, red hair, "surprisingly good, everywhere"	1/4-oz	25
		1/4-lb	220-240
	Humboldt County, beautiful/tight/lime-green nodules, "one of the longest-lasting highs around"	1/4-oz	45
		1/4-lb	450
	Afghani, full body high, heavy, "too good"	1/4-oz	60
		oz	175
	Mushrooms, "coming back"	gm	4-7
	LSD, Purple Pyramid, "definite mindfuck"	one	7
	MDMA, "when it's around"	one	15-20
	Cocaine	gm	80-90
Newark, DE		1/4-oz	450-500
		1/4-oz	40
	Domestic sinse bud; "green, tasty, potent—also plenty seeds"	1/4-oz	40
	Jamaican, "dirt-weed, but it does the job"	oz	65
	Colombian, "good 'lumbo, always around in the summertime"	1/2-oz	50
	Mushrooms, "around once in a while, quality varies, but usually good"	1/4-oz	35
	Red Lightning, homemade Italian wine, "recipe from my grandfather"	bottle	1.25
Northern Maine	U.S.-Jamaican hard bud, high THC pot, "excellent"	1/4-oz	50
	New England grown buds, "alright high, alright taste"	1/4-oz	45
Pittsburgh, PA	Northern Lights 5x8 indoor, "brutal buzz, long-lasting"	1/4-lb	650
	Northern Lights x Afghani #1, "very sticky, skunky odor, like smoking a lude"	1/4-lb	650

T H M A LETTERS



Pomona, CA	Bulk Thai, "tons of it, though the quality varies bag to bag"	1/4-oz	40
	Christmas Tree skunk, picked before the smell sets in, smells sweet as candy, "my personal favorite"	oz	220
	Dirtweed Colombian, "just puts you to sleep, doesn't get you high"	oz	80
	Stinky skunk, "overrated for the price"	1/4-oz	35
	Mexican Red Hair, very few seeds and lots around, "best buy in town"	oz	80-100
	Green shake, "great for brownies and giant Rasta joints, skunk smell, no high"	oz	10
	LSD, Red Skull (Grateful Dead), "spose to be Ozley, I doubt it"	hit	2.50-5
	LSD, Blue Dots, best to crush them and snort it, "great for playing golf on"	hit	2
	Ozark Skunk, "seedless and primo"	1/4-oz	35
	Red Hair Sinse, "sometimes seeds, always good"	oz	120
Springfield, MO	Red Hair Sinse, "sometimes seeds, always good"	1/4-oz	30
	Mexican shitweed	oz	120
	Good Colombian, "buttery smell, one-hit shit"	1/4-oz	20-25
	Shrooms, "home-grown and fried my mind"	oz	90
	Acid, Octopus "mediocre"	gm	30
	Acid, White Blotter, "good to shitty"	oz	100
	Acid, Purple-Blue Tile, "knocked my socks off"	oz	6-7
	Acid, New World, "far-out trip"	one	5
	Coke, 70-90% pure	one	5-7
	Acid, Purple-Blue Tile, "knocked my socks off"	one	5
Tampa, FL	Killer skunk, Ft. Myers brand	one	10
	California Orange, "fantastic"	1/4-gm	25
	Average killer Fla. sinse	8-ball	250
	Brown pot, "fuck that"	oz	180-200
	Shrooms, "they're free, yahoo"	oz	200
	Acid	oz	90
	Cocaine	1/4-lb	350
		lb	1100
		oz	60
		hit	4

IN THE BOONDOCKS

Beaver County, PA	Red Bud Colombian, 100% bud	lb	1100
	Red-haired Mex sinse	lb	1500
	"Arm's Length" Mexican trees of beautiful indica buds of skunk, whew...lots of lumber too	lb	2200
	B-burg Bud	1/4-oz	35
Blacksburg, VA	Green Buds, "moldy and good"	oz	110
	Acid, Bozo, "huge and potent"	oz	40
	White CA Blotter	hit	120
		hit	2

CANADA

I hope you print this letter, because it will let people know that Canada is doing pretty good when it comes to gettin' high. I just arrived back home in Kamloops, British Columbia. I was visiting friends in Toronto, where I was introduced to a fellow who deals in the smoke. After one hour of hooting, he sold me an ounce of something (pot) very light green and very stinky—fucking awesome—for only \$75 Canadian money. The next day, a friend and I went back and bought four pounds of the pot and 1/4-pound of real, black hash (import). So anyway, it was snapped up pretty fast when we got back home. Come up to Kamloops and party with some Canadian heads. No, we don't live in igloos! In May-August '86, we had hotter temps than Arizona, Hawaii and California. We grow some pretty good home-grown bud too. Ciao for now.

Captain Cloud and Lethal Lee
Kamloops, B.C., Canada

INDIANA

The boys in July's Issue are right on ("Crybabies" Steve and the Holland Grower in Texas). I'm growing seeds from Holland and couldn't be more pleased. The bullshit I grow now goes for \$35 a 1/4-ounce and fuck everyone who thinks it grows free!!! I'm heartbroken over the Oregon vote. Here we "can't" vote on what we want.

Diplaced Okies in Hoosier Country
Southbend, Indiana

P.S.: I couldn't go on without you!

MISSOURI

Here in Springfield, Missouri, the summer of 1986 was almost totally dry! All that was around was low-potency, shake leaves. But today is a different story. In the Ozarks we raise the finest, outdoor, Ozark skunk. During the fall, weed started coming around again. There's usually quite a variety of buds in Springfield, and surprisingly enough, it's still fairly low-priced: \$30-\$35 per 1/4-ounce.

Jokin', Smokin' B. and S.
Springfield, Missouri

OHIO

Yes, R. of Akron is still here. Employment and industry may be leaving, but the people are the best in the rubber capital of the world. The battle of the drought has ended, however the war goes on. The herb situation is so-so, but most of it works; some more than others. To everyone's surprise, California indica skunk bud is still around, but the price is getting old: \$70 for a 1/4-ounce. There is some tri-state bud from last year that is in good condition. The standard is Mexican sinse.

The best news of all is that I have expanded my outdoor garden and have 32 indica/sativa plants. Last year I harvested seven female plants that were 6-13 feet. My family and I smoked fresh, fat, sticky, free buds from early September until the beginning of 1987. We smoked the world's best herb—homegrown bud—for four months and did not have to pay a dime for it. My point is simply this: Stop depending on other people for your herb. Get your lazy ass out of your chair, turn off your television and start growing your own herb! There is no feeling in the world like the one you get from growing your own herb. Sure there is a risk. I know the risks firsthand. The grower's biggest risks are rip-off and arrest, in that order. I have had two rip-offs in the last five years. Going to your grow area only to discover that some scum has taken your bud is the grower's worst fear. Last year I moved my grow area deeper into the woods and had one hell of a harvest! If I'm lucky enough not to have my crop ripped-off or get arrested this year, I will be smoking the world's finest bud until next year's harvest. Wish me luck! And to all the others with the same dream, I do indeed wish you luck. Let's make this the record harvest of all time!

R. "grow your own" Rasta
Akron, Ohio

TENNESSEE

In Memphis, Tennessee we have some great Jamaican that just came in. It's very fresh. So far no one can smoke a whole joint. It's two-toke smoke. It's in bricks and very sticky, going for \$40 a 1/4-ounce and \$1920 a pound and up.

Mary
Memphis, Tennessee

SOUTH CAROLINA

I think you'll find this place is out in the boon-docks. I moved to Houston a couple of weeks back after living in Myrtle Beach, SC for 18 years. With Florida SLED tightening up, the mid-east coast resorts are likely suspects for the dealers who are searching for new homes.

Kind of bored but high
Houston, Texas

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LETTERS

continued from page 14

HAWAIIAN HIGHS

In the April '87 issue there was an article titled "Psychedelic Plants of Hawaii." It mentioned the Sensitive Plant. At what stage are the roots harvested? How are they processed for smoking and eating? What amount is a hit?

—A nature lover and old DMY fan from the Ozarks

I enjoyed your pictorial of the psychedelic plants of Hawaii. I must say, though, that the test was far too brief. With respect to coleus, for example: Are all coleus psychoactive? How is the tea best prepared? Are there other ways of using it? And what are the possible risks and effects? Thanks for a great mag, folks!

—A.H.

Mackenzie, British Columbia

Mel Zimmer, author and photographer of the Hawaiian article, responds: Let me start by saying that my interests and expertise lie mainly with mushrooms, and that my familiarity with herbals does not run as deep. In my travels I have learned how plants common to our gardens and homes contain either lethal or psychoactive substances. I take the approach that those substances are sometimes available through simply chewing—as with betel, coca, and coleus—or available only through distillation in a laboratory, i.e., the lysergic acid in woodrose seeds.

An infusion of the roots of *Mimosa hostilis*, called *jurema* or *yurema*, are drunk by various tribes in Eastern Brazil in ceremonies usually connected with warfare, according to Schultes. The active principle with *hostilis* and the other species of *Mimosa* is N, N-dimethyltryptamine (DMT). It is my understanding that the Sensitive Plant (*Mimosa pudica* et al) is among them. *Coleus pumilus* and *blumei* are reported to be used by the Mazatecs of Oaxaca Valley in Mexico. They either chew the fresh leaves or pound and mix them with water, strain off the pulp and then drink the liquid.

I have used DMT myself in the past, but quite honestly, I have come to believe it to be a very dangerous drug, and one that is certain to cause neurological damage if abused. I am



MEL ZIMMER

simply trying to convey the wonder of the psychochemical world of plants, and a bit of knowledge. Be careful what you do with that knowledge. Placing the huge flowers of the *Datura* tree at your bedside will sedate you into deep slumber, and I have used it that way. I would not care to use *Datura* the way Don Juan used it. The choice is there for us all.

NO PLACE TO HIDE

We are a couple in our 40s, retired on a modest income, and are in need of your advice. Where on this planet can one grow and smoke cannabis and be totally legal? We just returned from Alaska and found they are living in a police state just like the one we have here in Arkansas. We saw a segment on "60 Minutes" about four years ago about an island somewhere between the United States and South America. There was a church on the island and its members smoked a pound a week. Do you know the name and location of this place?

—E&M

Witts Springs, Arkansas

Sorry, we missed the segment, but maybe one of our readers caught it. If you want to grow for your own head stash, we recommend Holland. It's not entirely legal, but if the cops bust you, they just confiscate the plants. Few people face criminal prosecution. Skunk #1 clones are sold openly in many stores for around \$5.

continued on page 68

our acid-drenched psychedelic back issue offer!!!

This month we've decided to give HIGH TIMES' readers an unprecedented opportunity to buy all of our back issues that feature LSD, 'shrooms, and psychedelic drugs.

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Feb. 1981 No. 66

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Dec. 1985 No. 124

LSD Flashback, TV's Electronic Evangelists (by Ann Magnuson), Shroom centerfold, The Real Nicaraguan Connection. \$5.00



Aug. 1987 No. 144

Journey to the Mind's Eye, Dock Ellis and the Electric Baseball Game, The 10 Worst Things that Happened to Rock Music. \$5.00

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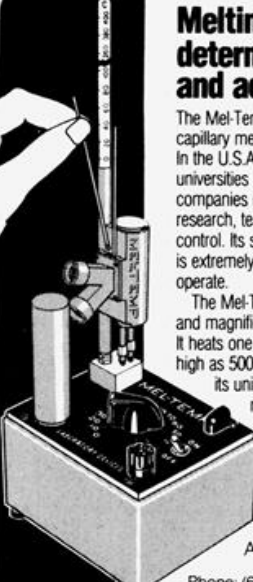
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HIGHWITNESS NEWS

continued from page 24

HASH DEAL FALLS FLAT

Author Norman Mailer claims that two friends of his received heavier sentences because they did not implicate him as a financial backer in a \$15 million hashish deal. Bernard "Buzz" Farbar and Richard Stratton went on trial in 1984, and are serving 6- and 10-year jail terms. They were convicted of smuggling 7½ tons of hashish from Lebanon. Although Mailer flatly denies being involved in the deal, federal officials believe Mailer provided some seed money based on statements by Sobhi Hammoud, who participated in the deal. "I had some idea of what he [Stratton] was doing," Mailer said. "I didn't want to know too much." ●

THE CONSTITUTION: THE ROAD TO SANITY

Chief Judge Sol Wachtler and his constituent judges on New York's highest court upheld the idea of civil liberties by refusing to legitimize random drug testing in that state, saying that government agencies cannot implement drug testing without "reasonable suspicion."

In a case involving a Long Island school district intent on forcing 22 probationary teachers to submit to urine tests as a condition for winning tenure, the court ruled 7 to 0 against unreasonable searches for evidence of drug abuse. This decision could become a precedent as other state courts are asked to rule on the legality of random drug tests both in the public and private sectors.

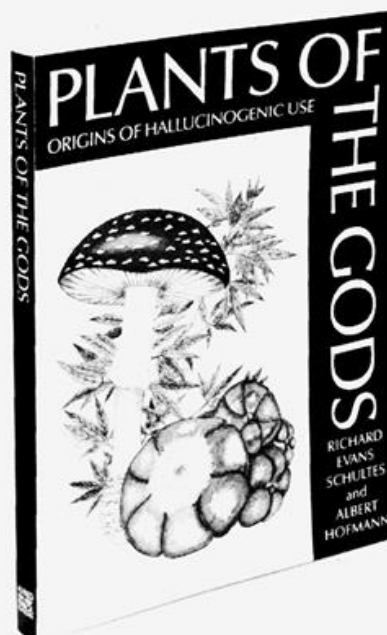
By basing his conclusion on the state and federal constitutions, Judge Wachtler, who wrote the decision, might have prevented the federal Supreme Court from being able to overturn New York's ruling. ●

NEW DRUG LAWS IN NEW JERSEY

"Today, we take off the gloves in fighting the enemy of the 1980's: drugs," said New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean, as he signed new legislation calling for drastic penalties for drug-related offenses in the state. The Comprehensive Drug Reform Act requires penalties ranging up to 25 years in prison without any chance for parole and fines up to \$500,000 for certain drug crimes. However, the bill will not take effect until the Legislature passes a bond issue for \$198 million to fund construction of new prisons. It is estimated that the law will add from 750 to 1,000 new inmates in the next five years to the state's prison system, and jails are already filled to 115 percent of capacity.

The Governor claimed that New Jersey's new law will prove more effective than other similar get-tough crackdowns that call for stiff penalties, such as New York's Rockefeller Laws, because the tough sentences will be combined with education and rehabilitation. Details of those programs, from curriculum to funding, were not made available. ●

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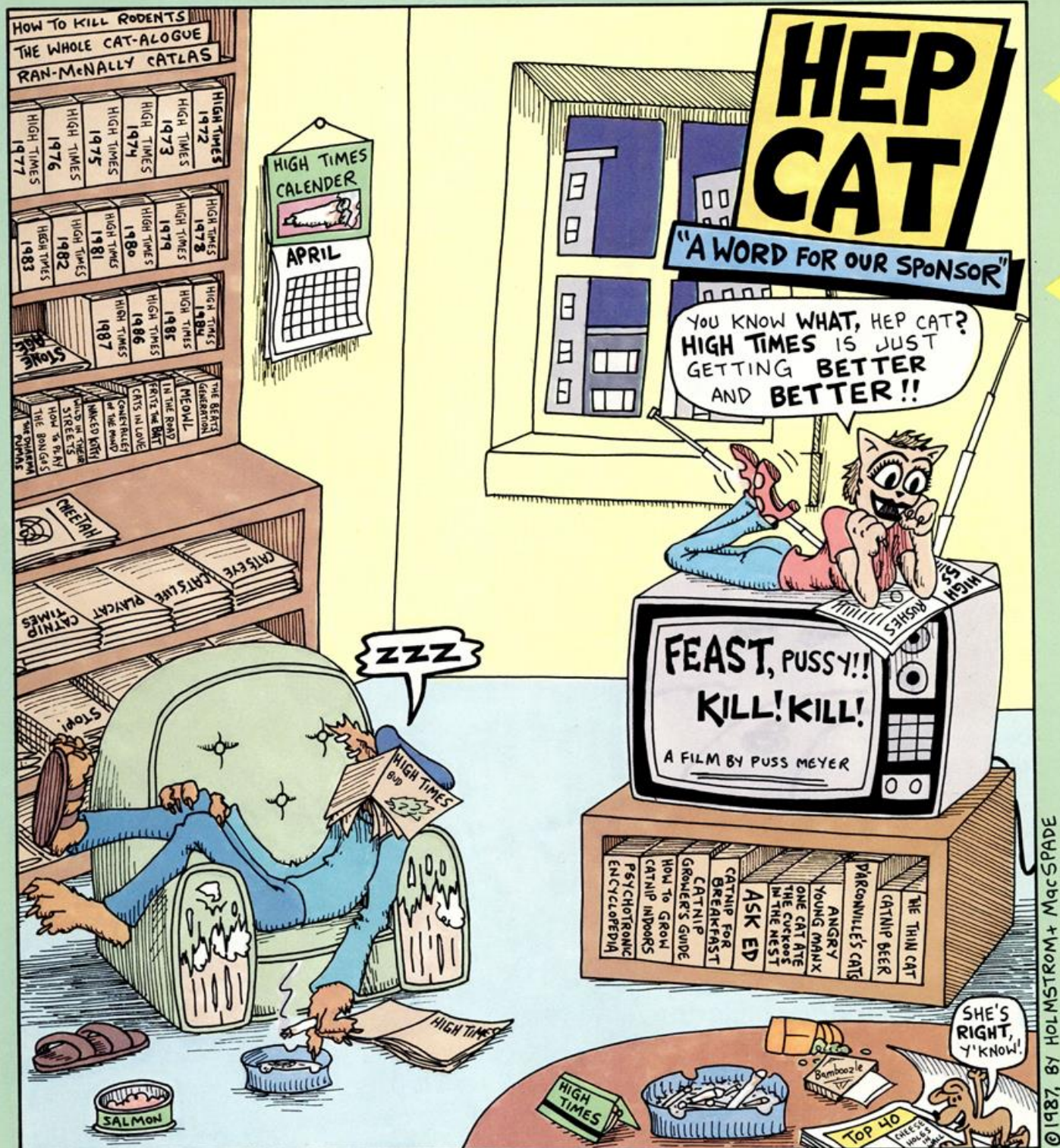
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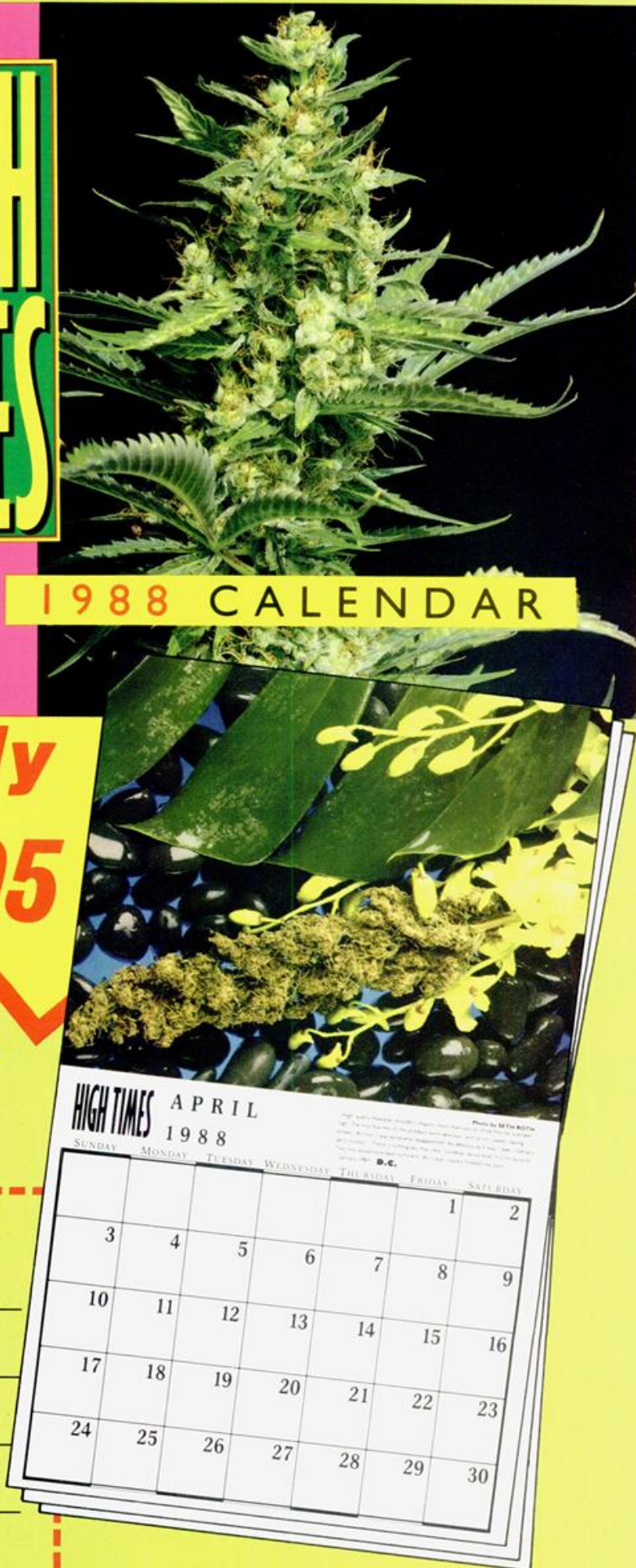
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1988 CALENDAR





The ever-popular "Popeye," by E.C. Segar, from *The Complete Segar Popeye*.

funny books

BY JOHN HOLMSTROM



A very funny "Calvin and Hobbes" by Bill Watterson.

The hottest things in the publishing world right now are "funny books," that is, hard- and paperback compilations of comic strips. Partly because of the proliferation of specialty comic book stores, and partly because a whole generation of kids grew up in the sixties and seventies and kept reading comics as adults, comic books are selling like hotcakes! Here's a look at a few of them.

Of special interest to many HIGH TIMES readers is **A History of Underground Comics**, from Ronin Press. Originally published in 1974, the book caused a furor in the U.G. comix scene, which resulted in the author, Mark James Estren, getting punched out by an angry cartoonist. Maybe that guy was onto something—Estren is now a yuppie, in charge of the Financial News Network ("to him, money news makes the world go around," says his press kit). Although the book is an interesting read and there's lots of great comics reprinted in it, at the new \$17.95 cover price you might be better off buying the original underground comic books if you can find them.

If you want to spend big bucks on comics reprints, go for the gigantic **MAD** reprints. **MAD** is the original underground comic book, and was probably the single biggest influence on the counterculture of the sixties. Each book has six complete **MADs** inside, and eventually every single wonderful

issue will be available. The luxurious 9" x 12", full-color format allows comics fans to enjoy all those tiny, wacky details lovingly crammed into each panel. A masterpiece!

Another comics masterpiece, available to the public for the first time, is **The Complete E.C. Segar Popeye**, from Fantagraphics Books, Inc. The original Popeye is an eye-popping classic and a must-read for anyone who likes funny comics. Popeye, like MAD, was a big influence on the underground comix scene. Still is!

There are many current newspaper comic strip compilations you might like. There are several compilations featuring Berke Breathed's **Bloom County**, as well as Gary Larson's hilarious **The Far Side**. But these are all available at your local bookstore, so let's mention a comics book that needs a plug, okay?



Left: "Speed Kills," by R. Crumb, from *A History of Underground Comics*. Below: a detail from *At Home with Rick Geary*.



R. Crumb's brilliant "Getting the Message to the People," from *A History of Underground Comics*.

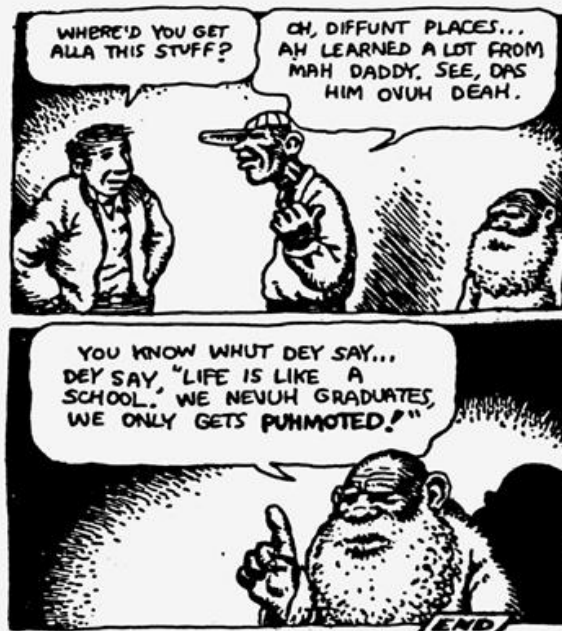
For instance, Mark Marek's **Hercules Amongst the North Americans** needs a plug. After all, the book plugs *HIGH TIMES* right on the cover. No reason it shouldn't—Mark's **Hercules** strip appeared here in *HIGH TIMES*, as well as in the *National Lampoon*, on a regular basis a few years back. Although Marek has been accused of blatantly ripping off Gary Panter's drawing style in the same way Gary Larson has been charged with taking too much "inspiration" from B. Kliban, **Hercules** can stand on its own merits. Whatever the weaknesses of the drawing, lettering, or layout, **Hercules** is a well-written, imaginative strip. Which is all that counts, isn't it?

Another former *National Lampoon* cartoonist, Rick Geary, also got a book deal. His **At Home with Rick Geary** is now available from Fantagraphics

Books, Inc. His stuff is well rendered in a very original style. Although the writing is too spaced out for me to understand, you might enjoy it.

Two cartoonists whose work I do understand, and laugh at every chance I get, are Drew Friedman and Josh Alan Friedman, both of whom have been printed in *HIGH TIMES* a whole bunch of times. Their **Any Similarity to Persons Living or Dead Is Purely Coincidental**, also published by Fantagraphics Books, Inc. has become one of the success stories in the funny books phenomenon, and a big reason a lot of cartoonists are suddenly getting book deals. Complete in the book is their Joe Franklin epic, which resulted in a \$20 million dollar lawsuit. Hey! Anything that funny deserves your immediate attention, right?

Then there's the inimitable Harvey Pekar, *Late Night with David Letterman*'s latest mascot.



Heavy philosophy from Harvey Pekar's *More American Splendor*, drawn by Crumb.

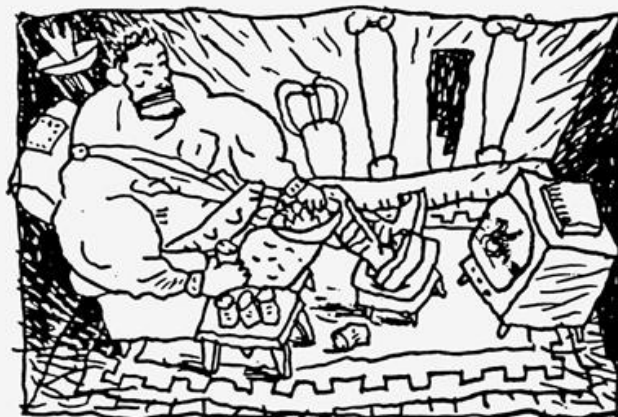


Ron Cobb's biting social comment, from *A History of Underground Comics*.

His first comics compilation, **American Splendor**, was, like the Friedman brothers book, a big success, and inspiration for the funny books phenomenon. Although I don't find his slice-of-life comic strips particularly humorous, many people have informed me that they are. Many of these same people have also informed me that his second collection, **More American Splendor**, is a disappointment. But to me, any book that features the work of R. Crumb is worth checking out, and Crumb has five strips in this book. So check it out!

Another cult figure on the comics circuit is Mad Peck. Dolphin Books recently published a 20-year retrospective by the Mad Peck, and aficionados of his work will be pleased. The book is certainly a cultural artifact, although I'm not a big fan of Mad Peck, Milton Knight (whose "Zoë" comic premieres in this issue) informs me that the Mad Peck is, in his words, "wonderful!"

Absolutely the worst book I've seen fall under the "funny" designation is **The Whole Enchilada** by Nicole Hollander, from St. Martin's Press. The writing stinks, the craftsmanship is worse,



LATE ONE EVENING HERCULES FINDS HIMSELF DEEPLY EMBROILED IN YET ANOTHER EXCITING ADVENTURE

Above right: Mark Marek's *Hercules Amongst the North Americans*. Right: Gahan Wilson's *America*.



"What can I say?
You're my kind of talent!"



A little cheesecake from Mad Peck Studios.



YES, HERE WAS A LEVEL OF JOURNALISTIC INQUIRY UNPRECEDENTED IN MODERN COMMUNICATIONS. GIVE HIM A BOTTLE OF SODA, HE PRAYS. SHOW HIM A CAN OF PAINT, HE SALUTES. SAY SOMETHING FASCINATING, HE INTERRUPTS.



Josh and Drew Friedman's Joe Franklin parody from *Any Similarity to Persons Living or Dead Is Purely Coincidental*.



Massimo Mattioli's sicko **SUPERWEST Comics**.

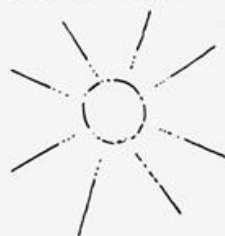
and the lettering and layout are so sloppy that the book is almost unreadable. I can't even find anyone who'll say something nice about it either! For instance, here's a typical "joke." Sylvia's daughter—"Ma, do you think I can be a feminist and still like men?" Sylvia—"Sure, just like you can be a vegetarian and still like fried chicken." Hilarious, huh?

Another book I didn't laugh at is **SUPERWEST Comics**, by Massimo Mattioli, from Catalan Communications. I can't figure out why—the drawings are funny, and there are funny ideas scattered here and there—but I dunno, I didn't laugh. Maybe you will. But I like his **Squeak the Mouse** book—really SICKO STUFF!

I laugh out loud any time I read Gahan Wilson's cartoons—he's the ginchiest! Although his latest collection of gags, **Gahan Wilson's America**, doesn't have any baseball cartoons (for which Gahan profusely apologizes), it's a truly funny book with many examples of what makes this country such a wonderful place to live.



One of Rick Griffin's bizarre hallucinations from **ZAP Comics #3**, reprinted in *A History of Underground Comics*.

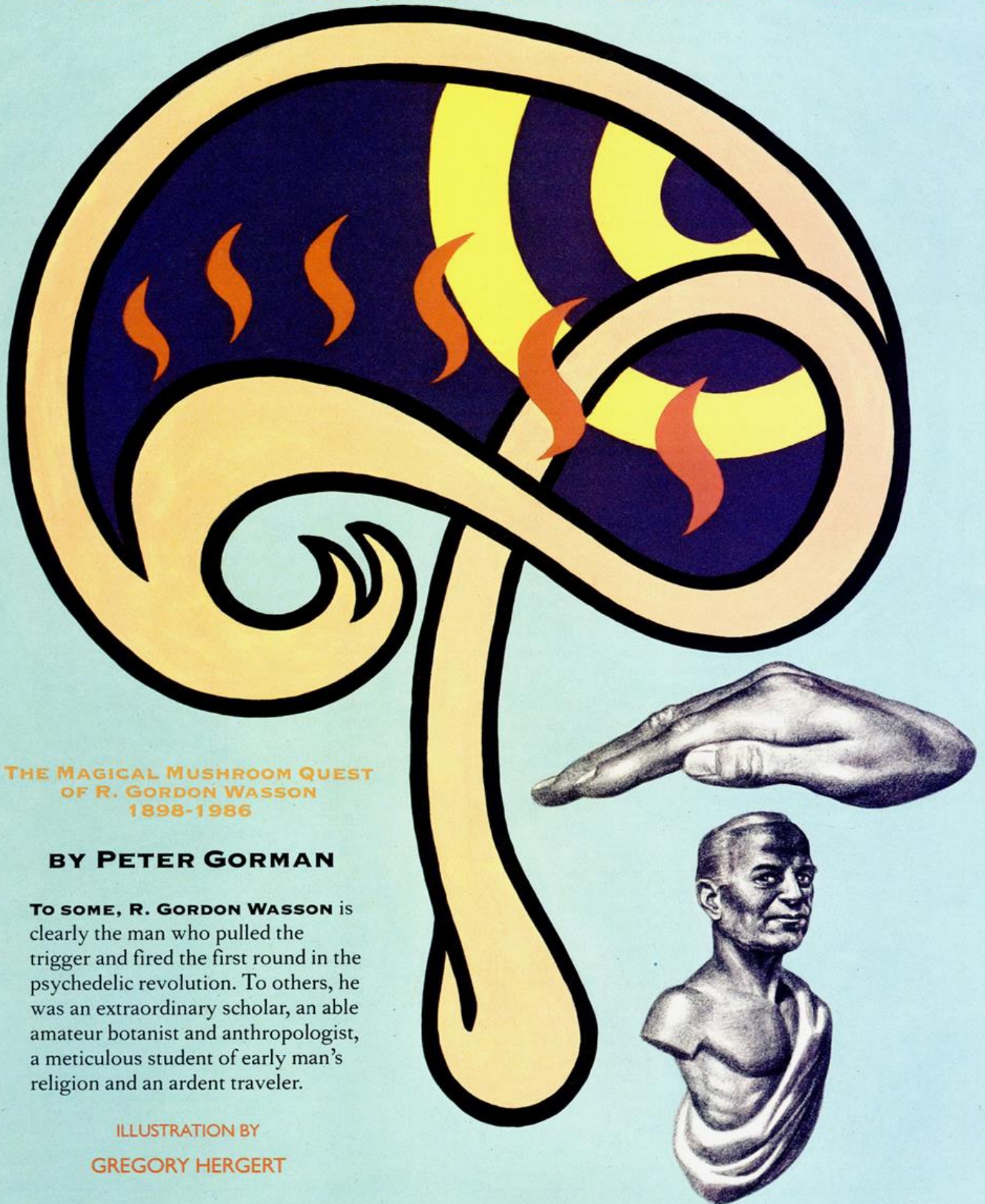


I saved the best for last. My favorite newspaper comic strip is currently **Calvin and Hobbes**. I don't ordinarily like kid comics. I hate Peanuts, U.S. Acres, Garfield, the whole lot of 'em. But **Calvin and Hobbes** is the funniest, best-drawn comic strip I've seen in the last twenty years. It even compares favorably to underground comix! So check out the **Calvin and Hobbes** book, published by Andrew, McMeel & Parker. If you don't laugh at that, well, then you just wasted ten minutes reading this article, didn't you? Ha ha ha ha! ●



Another gem from Gahan Wilson's **America**.

SAGE OF SOMA



THE MAGICAL MUSHROOM QUEST
OF R. GORDON WASSON
1898-1986

BY PETER GORMAN

TO SOME, R. GORDON WASSON is clearly the man who pulled the trigger and fired the first round in the psychedelic revolution. To others, he was an extraordinary scholar, an able amateur botanist and anthropologist, a meticulous student of early man's religion and an ardent traveler.

ILLUSTRATION BY
GREGORY HERGERT



R. GORDON WASSON was born in Great Falls, Montana, in 1898, the son of a minister. He spent his early years in Newark, New Jersey, attended Columbia School of Journalism, taught there for a short time afterward, then moved to England to study at the London School of Economics. It was while in London that he met and fell in love with Valentina Pavlovna, a Russian emigré studying to become a doctor. In 1926, after Pavlovna had completed her studies, they married and moved to New York. There she began a pediatric practice which flourished; he wrote on economics for the **NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE**.

Some months later, while on a delayed honeymoon, Gordon Wasson first came in contact with wild mushrooms. As he put it: "In the afternoon of the first day in the Catskills, we went strolling. . . . Suddenly my bride spied wild mushrooms in the forest, and racing over the carpet of dried leaves in the woods, she knelt in poses of adoration before first one cluster and then another of these growths. She was overcome with joy at seeing the same kinds of mushrooms in the United States that she had seen in Russia." That night she added the mushrooms to everything she cooked; he refused to eat, sure that all wild fungi were deadly poisonous and that he would be a widower in the morning.

Not the kind of auspicious beginning one might expect from a man who would become the world's foremost authority on hallucinogenic mushrooms. Wasson's wife had grown up gathering mushrooms for the table; he had been taught they were poisonous. The cultural opposition caused them to begin a lifelong search for the origins of those opposing viewpoints.

By 1928, Wasson had left journalism for banking, working as an investment banker for **MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST**. Meanwhile, during her spare time, Valentina began collecting material on mushrooms in myth and literature. They began to vacation in areas where people were known for their love of mushrooms: Friesland, Lapland, Provence, and the Basque country. Friends in these places sent them material on mushrooms, and friends of friends did the same. Wasson soon had to coin a term for their field of inquiry. He named it *ethnomycology*, the study of the mushroom's place in the culture of man. The material eventually grew so voluminous the Wassons decided to publish a study. While preparing the book, they realized how many religious references were involved. Suddenly Wasson and his wife had a simultaneous thought: Was it not probable that our ancestors worshipped a mushroom? Wouldn't this explain the aura in which all fungi seem to be bathed? But what kind of mushroom was worshipped, and why?

This was the turning point in their work. They found themselves studying the mushroom not only for its anecdotal place in cultural history, but also for its probable religious significance. The first key to

this riddle was the discovery of six extant primitive peoples in Siberia who still used hallucinogenic mushrooms in shamanistic rites. Further study indicated that even in cultures where mushrooms were taboo, they carried a supernatural aura. Greek literature was filled with references to mushrooms as "food of the gods." Prohibitions against mortals eating them were severe.

The Wassons became obsessed with their work. The concept of drugs and religion was not entirely new: Mescaline had recently been synthesized from peyote buttons and were the subject of study among Indians of the Southwest and Northern Mexico, and Philippe de Felice had written that the connection between religion and the taking of drugs was "... a kind of phenomenon which cannot be disregarded by anyone who is trying to discover what religion is, and what are the deep needs it must satisfy." Wasson's father himself had written a book decrying Prohibition, citing alcohol use in religious service, but the trail the Wassons were on was broader than any of these. They were looking for a specific fungus which apparently had been used in disparate parts of the globe from Siberia to India, including China, and perhaps even in MesoAmerica.

A second turning point in the Wassons' study came on September 19, 1952. They received two letters that day, both of them evidence they were on the right track. The first was a drawing of a pre-conquest Guatemalan stone carving representing a mushroom; the second was a letter from the poet Robert Graves calling their attention to an article by Richard Evans Schultes, the famed ethnobotanist. In it, Schultes presented evidence of a mushroom cult in Mexico; he had even brought back specimens of the supposedly magic mushroom for study at the Harvard Botanical Museum. Moreover, Schultes had claimed to have witnessed a shamanistic ritual in which they were used, though he made no claim to having ingested the mushrooms himself.

Since it ran counter to the prevailing thought of the day, Schultes' paper, and even his specimens, had not raised many eyebrows at Harvard. Upon seeing his specimens, one of the botanists there remarked, "Dried mushrooms look like dried peyote tops, so they're one and the same thing."

In 1953 the Wassons made their first expedition to a town mentioned by Schultes, Huautla de Jimenez, in search of the magic mushroom cult. They were accompanied by anthropologist Roberto Weitlaner, the man who had made the first claims about the magic mushrooms and whose work had inspired Schultes. (**SEE "WASSON'S FIRST VOYAGE," P. 40.**)

Mushrooms opened up new worlds and new horizons. Wasson became convinced they were responsible for planting the seed of religion in primitive man. They also provided him with his first genuine awareness of ecstasy. He and his wife—who had extraordinary visions of her own when she tried the mushrooms—spent as much of the following year in Mexico as possible.



IN 1954 ALDOUS HUXLEY had published *The Doors of Perception*, an essay detailing the effects of his first encounter with mescaline. But while Huxley loaded the gun, it was Wasson who pulled the trigger. On **FEBRUARY 13, 1957**, *Life* magazine published a 15-page article detailing, experientially, Wasson's first experiences with the shamaness Maria Sabina. The fantastic style of the text, coupled with Richardson's extraordinary photographs ushered in, with one fell swoop, the age of psychedelics.

Wasson described the ritual in such amazing terms that years later the leaders of the psychedelic revolution would all nod their heads to him: He inspired them, told them the ideal conditions under which hallucinogens were to be taken, what they could expect, and how to have a good and beneficial trip. Timothy Leary dedicates a chapter in his book *High Priest* to Wasson. Others, from Owsley to Sandoz to Wolfe, acknowledge the *Life* article as having burned into their consciousness the desire to know what Wasson had experienced.

For Wasson, it was never his intent that anyone should follow him to Maria Sabina's home in Huautla de Jiminez. In the *Life* article he never mentioned a town, and he changed Sabina's name to Eva Mendez in an effort to protect her privacy. But Wasson was well-known, stylishly flamboyant, and already had been the subject of magazine articles. Other writers who knew the real location of his *velada* were not as thoughtful. Maria Sabina and her little town were soon descended upon by hordes of would-be visionaries, curiosity seekers, and even tour guides and their charges.

In a sense, it couldn't have been any other way: Huxley had whetted the appetites of a generation for mind-expanding drugs; Wasson excited the imaginations of those who excited us. His descriptions of tripping in a deep Mexican night with a powerful modern-day *curandera* must have boggled the mind in a day when hallucinogens were nearly unknown. Some writers have gone as far as to say that had he not published his story in *Life*, there would never have been a psychedelic revolution (the term psychedelic was one Wasson refused to use, coining instead *entheogen* for plants which produce a divine experience). For better or worse, the world was changed forever.

Unfortunately, the change was not for the better. Maria Sabina herself is quoted in a biography as saying: "When we Mazatecs speak of the *veladas* we do so in a low voice, and, so as not to pronounce the mushroom's name in Mazatec, we call them 'little things' and 'little children'... From the moment when the strangers arrived the holy children lost their purity. They lost their strength... before Wasson I felt that the Holy Children elevated me. I no longer feel so."

Wasson was crushed when he realized how she felt and how disturbed the Mazatec rituals had become. Shamans and *curanderas* began to crop up all over Mexico offering their services to all, regardless of the intent of the seekers. For Wasson, this was a

profaning of a sacred ritual of enlightenment. Schultes says that Wasson's intent was "purely scientific and sociological. His interest was in the effect of these plants and the use of them in religious and magical ceremonies, ancient and modern. Secondly, he wished to see if they might not lead to compounds that could be used in our medicine." But Wasson would later defend himself by saying, "What else could we have done? Had we refrained from presenting to the world the facts as we knew then, a novel and major chapter in Early Man's cultural history would perhaps have vanished forever." It was, he felt, just an accident that he had arrived in Mexico during the same decade as the highways, airports, and telephones.

GORDON WASSON AND VALENTINA continued their search for the roots of religion in Guatemala, New Guinea, and Borneo for the following two years, until Valentina's death. Wasson was devastated by the loss, but perhaps her death drove him to work even harder than before. In 1963 he quit his position at the Morgan Guaranty and Trust and set off for the Orient. With a translator, Wendy Doniger, to whom he credits coauthorship of *SOMA: Divine Mushroom of Immortality*, Wasson began a painstakingly slow dissection of the *Rig Veda*, the oldest religious text ever discovered, hoping to prove that the previously unidentified "divine plant" of the text was actually the hallucinogenic mushroom *Amanita muscaria*, also known as *Soma*. Not only did he eventually prove his point to the scholastic world, he went further and traced its influence from parts of Russia through India, the Middle East, and into China and Europe.

Following his return from the Orient, Wasson turned his attention to the study of the ancient Greek Rites of Elusis. With the help of Carl Rock and Albert Hofmann he proposed and proved that the ancient rites incorporated ergot, a hallucinogenic fungus growing on barley, as integral to the ceremony. The implications of this line of thought were inspiring: If true, it is not unlikely that Aristotle, Plato, Socrates, and Sophocles had experienced hallucinogenic inspiration similar to that of LSD.

In his later years Wasson traveled, lectured, and wrote further on the ethnomycology of magic mushrooms. He died on December 23, 1986, while visiting his daughter in Binghamton, New York, shortly after finishing *Persiphone's Quest*, a consolidation of theories on psychedelic involvement in early religion.

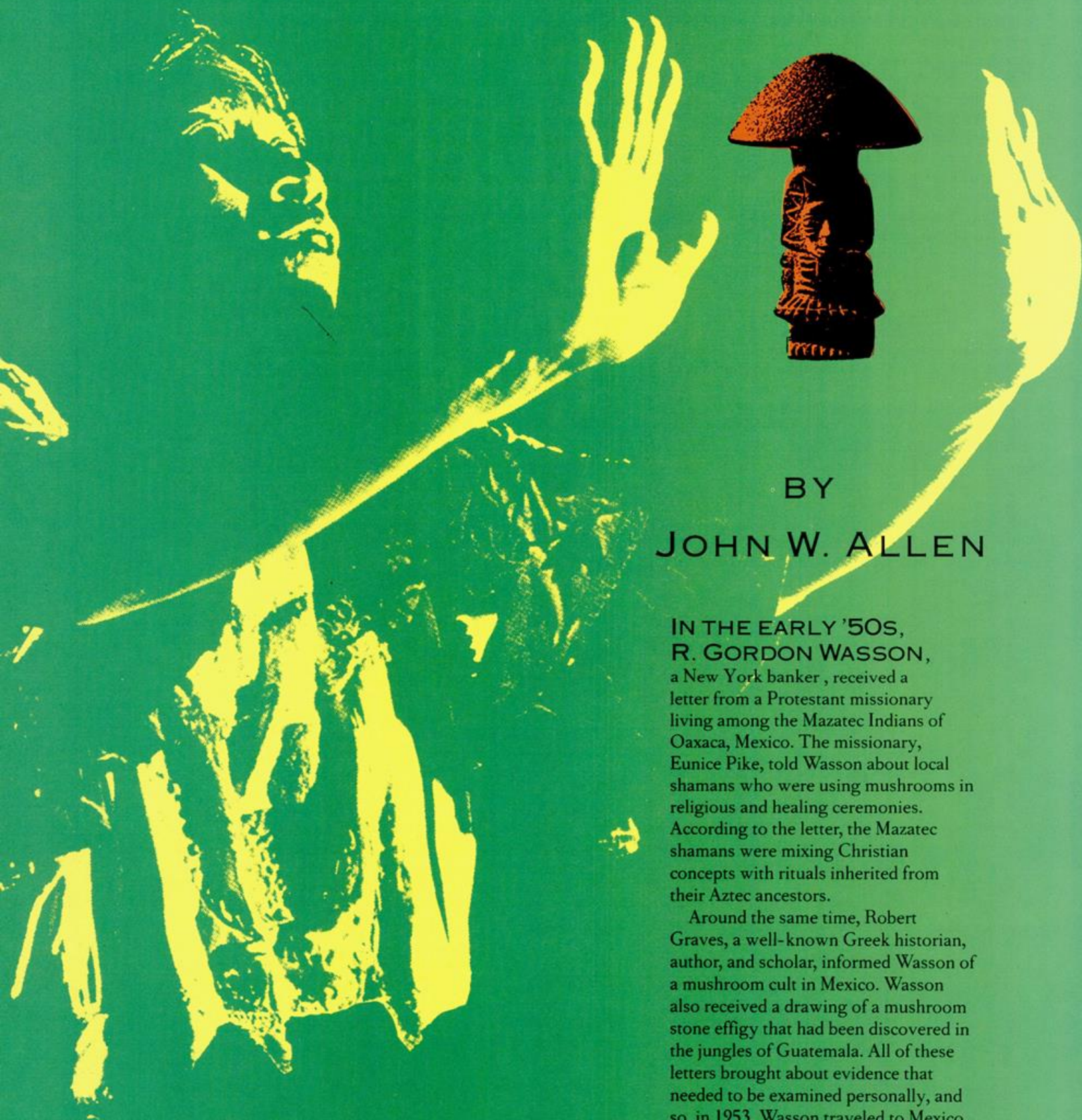
He is survived by his daughter and son.

Wasson was cremated in Washington, D.C., and his ashes were interred there. Considering the scope of his life's work, it is remarkable how unnoticed his death has gone in the major media.

Thomas Riedlinger is presently compiling a book of essays by associates, students, and collaborators of R. Gordon Wasson in memory of him. No publishing date has yet been set.



WASSON'S FIRST VOYAGE



Maria Sabina

BY
JOHN W. ALLEN

IN THE EARLY '50S, R. GORDON WASSON, a New York banker, received a letter from a Protestant missionary living among the Mazatec Indians of Oaxaca, Mexico. The missionary, Eunice Pike, told Wasson about local shamans who were using mushrooms in religious and healing ceremonies. According to the letter, the Mazatec shamans were mixing Christian concepts with rituals inherited from their Aztec ancestors.

Around the same time, Robert Graves, a well-known Greek historian, author, and scholar, informed Wasson of a mushroom cult in Mexico. Wasson also received a drawing of a mushroom stone effigy that had been discovered in the jungles of Guatemala. All of these letters brought about evidence that needed to be examined personally, and so, in 1953, Wasson traveled to Mexico, accompanied by his wife, Valentina, and Roberto Weitlaner.

After arriving in Mazatec country and inquiring about the Sacred Mushrooms of the Aztecs, they finally succeeded in attending an all-night velada (as the ceremony is called by the Mazatec shamans, or curanderas, who officiate and perform them). This first ceremony was conducted under the guidance of a Mazatec Shaman named Don Aurelio. Wasson observed the procedures and took notes of what transpired, but was not allowed to join in or partake of the mushrooms. However, he was very ecstatic over the performance, and felt no regrets for not being able to fully participate.

Wasson made two more exploratory excursions into Mexico during the next two years. It was on his third trip to Oaxaca, and his second into Huautla, that he and his photographer-friend Allan Richardson, arrived on the morning of June 29, 1955, in the tiny village hamlet of Huautla de Jimenez that lies perched high up in the Sierra Mazatec mountains of Southern Mexico. Wasson and Richardson had no idea that before the day ended, they would become the first foreigners to partake of the sacred mushrooms they had been seeking for so long.

Once Wasson and Richardson found lodgings, they set out on separate searches, asking everyone they came across for help in their mushroom hunt. After several hours of fruitless questioning of the natives, Wasson decided to find a government official and ask who might be willing to discuss the mushroom secrets with him. So off he went to the local *Municipio* (city hall), even though he was aware that many government officials were dishonest and corrupt, especially when it came to matters involving gringo white foreigners. But Wasson decided he didn't have much to lose by approaching the officials.

Eventually, Wasson met a man working in the office of the presidente who was the town *sindico*. The *sindico* is the number two man in the village, and since the presidente was away on business, the *sindico* was officially acting presidente. His name was Cayetano Garcia Mendoza. After exchanging introductions and greetings with Cayetano, Wasson was polite in his humble manner and discussed

several topics such as the weather, maize crop prices, the problems with the drinking water, and the current prices of coffee, etc. It wasn't long before Wasson found himself leaning over the counter towards Cayetano and whispering the Mazatec name for the sacred mushroom.

All of a sudden, Cayetano appeared bewildered and much astounded. How could a foreigner have knowledge of such a well-kept secret that very few Mazatec people would mention casually? But in answer to Wasson's

**...he said,
"Gordon, I'm
seeing things," to
which Wasson gave
the comforting
reply that he was
too...**

question, Cayetano replied that "nothing could be easier," and then he asked Wasson "to come to my humble adobe after four o'clock, when I'm done and finished with my day's work, and I would be ever so glad to help you with your unusual request."

Later that afternoon, Wasson and his friend Richardson, arrived at Cayetano's home. They were led down the road to a spot not more than a hundred feet from Cayetano's house, where they found an abundance of mushrooms fruiting out of sugar cane mulch. While Richardson began photographing the mushrooms, Wasson picked several and placed them gently into a pasteboard box which he had brought along for this occasion.

In the meantime, while Wasson was picking mushrooms, Cayetano proceeded to the home of his friend, Dona Maria Sabina.

Cayetano asked Sabina if he could bring the strangers to her home so that she might teach them the true knowledge of the mushrooms. Dona Maria replied, "If you want to, I can't say no."

(Years later, Maria Sabina stated she felt compelled to accept Wasson's visits because of Cayetano's official position, and she assumed Cayetano's visit to her

humble dwelling on that hot summer day was one of official business. Many years later, in 1971, Wasson read an interview with Maria Sabina in a European magazine that said when Cayetano had requested her aid in helping the foreigners, she did so because she felt she had no choice. She also declared that when she was asked to meet with them "she should have said no.")

By late afternoon, Wasson, Richardson, and their friends Emilio and Generao, had finished picking the mushroom samples and returned to Cayetano's home just as Cayetano was returning from Maria Sabina's.

Cayetano requested his son Emilio go along to Maria Sabina's home and act as an interpreter so the strangers would understand what was happening during the ceremony. At Maria Sabina's, Wasson opened his pasteboard box and exposed the mushrooms he had just picked. Maria Sabina cried out in joy and held them in her fragile hands, while talking to them in her own language. Arrangements were soon made for a velada later in the evening.

On the evening of June 29, 1955, Wasson and Richardson became the first white people to consume the sacred mushrooms of the ancient Aztec people, in a ceremony held under the supervision of Dona Maria Sabina, Curandera Supreme, who performed for them and with them, a vigil which was conducted by her at the home of her friend Cayetano.

Wasson later wrote: "We all ate our mushrooms facing the wall where the small altar table stood. We ate them in silence, except for Cayetano's father, don Emilio, who was consulting the mushrooms about his infected left forearm. He would jerk his head violently with each mushroom that he swallowed, and utter a smacking noise, as though in acknowledgment of their divine potency. I was seated in the corner of the room on the left of the altar. The Señora asked me to move because the Word would come down there..."

"I joined Allan immediately behind the Señora. We took about a half hour to eat our six pairs of mushrooms. By eleven o'clock we had all finished our

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SHROOMS VS POT *A Grower's Viewpoint*

FACE IT, IF MUSHROOMS AND OTHER MOLDS SPROUT WITH NO EFFORT ON YOUR PART ON TILES IN YOUR BATHROOM, VINTAGE FOOD, AND EVEN COW PIES, HOW TOUGH CAN IT BE TO **CONSCIOUSLY GROW** THEM? TRYING TO RELATE TO FUNGUS WITH PLANT RULES IS LIKE TRYING TO SMOKE A HIT OF ACID. BUT ONCE YOU GET INTO THEIR LITTLE CAP TRIP, IT'S REMARKABLY SIMPLE. A FEW POINTERS...



By Kyle Rog's



Art by Frank Ford '87

Nutrients

OUR FAVORITE PLANT, LIKE US, IS QUITE CONTENT TO GET FOOD AS IT NEEDS IT. NOT BEING LAIDBACK MUSHROOMS DON'T BELIEVE IN LIVING-ROOT TO LEAF THEY LOCK IN THEIR ENTIRE NUTRIENT SUPPLY IN A



WEB OF MYCELIA BEFORE THEY FRUIT.



SHROOMS DON'T LIKE UNCERTAINTIES. THEY PLAN. WHEN THE SHROOM COLONY EXHAUSTS ITS STASH IT STOPS FRUITING.



ALTHOUGH PLANTS, LIKE US, HAVE SPECIFIC TIMES WHEN THEY CONCENTRATE ON CERTAIN THINGS ROOTS, LEAVES, OR FLOWERS THEY'RE NOT ADVERSE TO PRODUCING A BIT MORE FOOD IN THEIR LEAVES WHILE THEY FLOWER, OR TO PRODUCING A FEW MORE ROOTS IF NEEDED. THEY EVEN ROOT AND LEAF AT THE SAME TIME. MUSHROOMS ARE VERY SINGLE MINDED. THEY ARE EITHER GROWING MYCELIA, SETTING PRIMORDIA OR FRUITING.

Growing



Light

THIS IS WHERE LIFESTYLES REALLY CLASH. POT LIKES TO SPEND ITS DAYS LOUNGING UNDER BRIGHT LIGHT AND A STEADY BREEZE. SHROOMS ON THE OTHER HAND ARE TRULY MYSTIC. AFTER SPENDING MOST OF THEIR LIFE IN TOTAL DARKNESS, THEY ONLY NEED ENUFF LIGHT TO SEE WHERE THEY ARE.



H₂O

TOTALLY DIFFERENT, POT SHRIVELS AND DIES FROM UNDERWATERING. SHROOMS DIE OR DROWN WHEN THEY ARE OVER-WATERED.



GERMINATING

THE MOST YOU CAN HOPE FOR FROM ONE SUPER SEED IS ONE SUPER PLANT, HOPEFULLY A GIRL. WITH SHROOMS YOU COULD RESTART FROM ONE LARGE SPORE PRINT MAYBE TWENTY-THIRTY TIMES.

EVEN IF YOUR FIRST SHROOM IS ONLY SPECIMEN SIZE, CHANCES ARE YOU CAN GET A BUZZ OFF IT, AND A NEW SPORE PRINT.



Humidity

POT IS TOLERANT ON THIS ONE - ALTHOUGH OUTSIDE OF 40-50% HUMIDITY YOU MIGHT RUN INTO TROUBLE WITH INSECTS, MOLD, AND AHM-MUSHROOMS! SHROOMS LIKE WATER, THEY JUST DON'T LIKE TO BE WATERED. THEY PREFER 80-100% HUMIDITY. WATER THE ROOM.



IT'S LIKE RUNNING A HEALTH CLUB FOR PLANTS!

CLONING

YOU CAN TAKE CUTTINGS OF OUR FAVORITE PLANT, THEREFORE BEING ABLE TO HAVE YOUR PLANT AND SMOKE IT TOO.

SHROOMS WORK MUCH THE SAME WAY EXCEPT FOR ONE DIFFERENCE - JUST AS THE HIGH ISN'T AS PLACID AS POT - NEITHER IS THEIR LIFESTYLE. THEY MUTATE ANYWAY.



TIME

IT MIGHT TAKE UP TO THREE MONTHS TO FUCK UP A PLANT OR EVEN TELL IF IT'S A BOY OR GIRL. WITH SOME SHROOMS, ONCE IT'S STARTED (CULTURE), YOU CAN TELL WITHIN WEEKS IF IT'S CONTAMINATED. WITH THE NEXT BATCH READY, SCREWING UP IS FAST AND CHEAP.



SALVAGING YOUR ERRORS

WHEN YOU SCREW UP POT, YOU SMOKE THE LEAVES. IT AIN'T PRIMO, BUT IT'S SOMETHING - ALMOST. MUSHROOMS ARE THE SAME. IF THE MYCELIA WON'T FRUIT YOU CAN ALWAYS EAT IT. IT DOESN'T TASTE BAD. IT'S THE AGAR MEDIUM IT'S ATTACHED TO THAT MAKES YOU GAG.



CONCLUSION

I LOVE GRASS AND I'M NEVER GIVING THAT UP. BUT I'M REALLY GETTING TO TREASURE SHROOMS ALSO. IF YOU'VE NEVER EATEN 'EM FRESH, YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT. CHOICE? NO CONTEST, I'LL TAKE 'EM BOTH!!!



LITTLE FLOWERS OF THE GODS

BY RICHARD
EVANS SCHULTES
AND
ALBERT HOFMANN

“There is a world beyond ours, a world that is far away, nearby and invisible. And there is where God lives, where the dead live, the spirits and the saints, a world where everything has already happened and everything is known. That world talks. It has a language of its own. I report what it says. The sacred mushroom takes me by the hand and brings me to the world where everything is known. It is they, the sacred mushrooms, that speak in a way I can understand. I ask them and they answer me. When I return from the trip that I have taken with them, I tell what they have told me and what they have shown me. ”

CONTINUED OVER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DR. W. RAUH



Thus does the famous Mazatec shaman, Maria Sabina, reverently describe the god-given powers of the intoxicating mushrooms that she uses in her ceremony that has come down from ages past.

Few plants of the gods have ever been held in greater reverence than the sacred mushrooms of Mexico. So hallowed were these fungi that the Aztecs called them *Teonanacatl* ("divine flesh") and used them only in the most holy of their ceremonies. Even though, as fungi, mushrooms do not blossom, the Aztecs referred to them as "flowers," and the Indians who still use them in religious rituals have endearing terms for them, such as "little flower." When the Spaniards conquered Mexico, they were aghast to find the natives worshipping their deities with the help of inebriating plants: Peyotl, Ololiuqui, *Teonanacatl*. The mushrooms were especially offensive to the European ecclesiastical authorities, and they set out to eradicate their use in religious practices.

"They possessed another method of intoxication, which sharpened their cruelty; for if they used certain small toadstools... they would see a thousand visions and especially snakes... They called these mushrooms in their language *teunamacatl*, which means 'God's flesh,' or 'of the Devil,' whom they worshipped, and in this wise with that bitter victual by their cruel God were they housed."

In 1656, a guide for missionaries argued against Indian idolatries, including mushroom ingestion, and recommended their extirpation. Not only do reports condemn *Teonanacatl*, but actual illustrations denounce it. One depicts the devil enticing an Indian to eat the fungus; another has the devil performing a dance upon a mushroom.

"But before explaining this [idolatry]," one of the clerics said, "I wish to explain the nature of the said mushrooms [which] were small and yellowish, and to collect them the priests and old men, appointed as ministers for these impostures, went to the hills and remained almost the whole night in sermonizing and in superstitious praying. At dawn, when a certain little breeze which they know begins to blow, they would gather them, attributing to them diety. When they are eaten or drunk, they intoxicate, depriving those who partake of them of their senses and making them believe a thousand absurdities."

Dr. Francisco Hernandez, personal physician to the king of Spain, wrote that three kinds of narcotic mushrooms were worshipped. After describing a lethal species, he stated that "others, when eaten, cause not death but madness that on occasion is lasting, of which the symptom is a kind of uncontrolled laughter. Usually called *teyhuintli*, these are deep yellow, acrid, and of a not dis-

pleasing freshness. There are others again which, without inducing laughter, bring before the eyes all kinds of things, such as wars and the likeness of demons.

"Yet others are there not less desired by princes for their fiestas and banquets, of great price. With night-long vigils are they sought, awesome and terrifying. This kind is tawny and somewhat acrid."

For four centuries nothing was known of the mushroom cult, and it was even doubted that mushrooms were used hallucinogenically in ceremony. The Church fathers had done such a successful job (through persecution) of driving the cult into hiding, that no anthropologist or botanist had ever uncovered the religious use of these mushrooms.

In 1916 an American botanist finally proposed a "solution" to the identification of *Teonanacatl*, concluding that *Teonanacatl* and the Peyote were the same drug. Motivated by distrust of the chroniclers and Indians, he intimated that the natives, to protect Peyote, were indicating mushrooms to the authorities. He argued that the dried, brownish, disk-like crown of Peyote resembles a dried mushroom—so remarkably that it will even deceive a mycologist. It was not until the 1930s that an understanding of the role of hallucinogenic mushrooms in Mexico and a knowledge of their botanical identification and chemical composition started to become available. In the late 1930s the first of the

PSILOCYBE CYANESCEN



PANAEOLUS SUBBALTEATUS





many species of sacred Mexican mushrooms were collected and associated with a modern mushroom ceremony. Subsequent fieldwork has resulted in the discovery of some two dozen species. The most important belong to the genus *Psilocybe*, twelve of which have been reported, not including *Stropharia cubensis*, sometimes considered a *Psilocybe*. The most important species appear to be *Psilocybe mexicana* and *P. hoogshagenii*.

These various mushrooms are now known to be employed in divinatory and religious rites among the Mazatec, Chinantec, Chatino, Mije, Zapotec, and Mixtec of Oaxaca; the Nahuatl and possibly the Otomi of Puebla; and the Tarascan of Michoacan. The present center of intensive use of the sacred mushrooms is among the Mazatec.

Mushrooms vary in abundance from year to year and at different seasons. There may be years when one or more species are rare or absent—they vary in their distribution and are not ubiquitous. Furthermore, each shaman has his own favorite mushrooms and may forego others. Maria Sabina, for example, will not use *Stropharia cubensis*. And certain mushrooms are used for specific purposes. This means that each ethnobotanical expedition may not expect to find the same assortment of species employed at one time, even in the same locality and by the same people.

The probability that more species will be

found in use is far from remote. Chemical studies have indicated that psilocybin and, to a lesser extent, psilocine are present in many of the species of the several genera associated with the Mexican ceremony. In fact, these compounds have been isolated from many species of *Psilocybe* and other genera in widely separated parts of the world, although the evidence available suggests that only in Mexico are psilocybin-containing mushrooms at present utilized in native ceremonies.

The modern mushroom ceremony is an all-night seance which may include a curing ritual. Chants accompany the main part of the ceremony. The intoxication is characterized by fantastically colored visions in kaleidoscopic movement, by auditory hallucinations, and, the partaker losing himself in unearthly flights of fancy.

The mushrooms are collected in the forests at the time of the new moon by a virgin girl, then taken to a church to remain briefly on the altar. They are never sold in the marketplace. The Mazatec call the mushrooms Nti-xi-tjo, in which 'Nti is a particle of reverence and endearment; the rest of the name means "that which springs forth." A Mazatec explained this though, poetically: "The little mushroom comes of itself, no one knows whence, like the wind that comes we know not whence nor why."

The shaman chants for hours, with fre-

quent clapping or percussive slaps on the thighs in rhythm with the chant. Maria Sabina's chanting, which has been recorded, studied, and translated, in great part proclaims humbly her qualifications to cure and to interpret divine power through the mushrooms. Excerpts from her chant, all in the beautiful tonal Mazatec language, give an idea of her many "qualifications."

Woman who thunders am I,
woman who
sounds am I.
Spiderwoman am I,
hummingbird woman
am I....
Eagle woman am I, important
eagle
woman am I.
Whirling woman of the
whirlwind am I,
woman of a
sacred, enchanted place am I,
Woman of the shooting stars
am I.

The first non-Indian fully to witness the Mazatec ceremony wrote the following un-

PSILOCYBE STONTZII



PSILOCYBE PELLICULOSA



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN ALLEN



derstanding thoughts about this use of the mushrooms:

"Here let me say a word about the nature of the psychic disturbance that the eating of the mushroom causes. This disturbance is wholly different from the effect of alcohol, as different as night from day. We are entering upon a discussion in which the vocabulary of the English language, of any European language, is seriously deficient. There are no apt words in it to characterize one's state when one is, shall we say, 'bemushroomed.' For hundreds, even thousands, of years, we have thought about these things in terms of alcohol, and we now have to break, the bounds imposed on us by our alcoholic obsessions. We are all, willy-nilly, confined within the prison walls of our everyday vocabulary. With skill in our choice of words,

we may stretch accepted meanings to cover slightly new feelings and thoughts, but when a state of mind is utterly distinct, wholly novel, then all our old words fail. How do you tell a man who has been born blind what seeing is like? In the present case this is an especially apt analogy, because superficially the bemushroomed man shows a few of the objective symptoms of one who is intoxicated, drunk. Now virtually all the words describing the state of drunkenness, from 'intoxicated' (which literally means 'poisoned') through the scores of current vulgarisms, are contemptuous, belittling, pejorative. How curious it is that modern civilized man finds surcease from care in a drug for which he seems to have no respect! If we use by analogy the terms suitable for alcohol, we prejudice the mushroom, and since

there are few among us who have been bemushroomed, there is danger that the experience will not be fairly judged. What we need is a vocabulary to describe all the modalities of a divine inebriant...."

Upon receiving six pairs of mushrooms in the ceremony, this novice-participant ate them. He experienced the sensation of his soul being removed from his body and floating in space. He saw "geometric patterns, angular, in richest colors, which grew into architectural structures, the stonework in brilliant colors, gold and onyx and ebony, extending beyond the reach of sight, in vistas measureless to man. The architectural visions seemed to be oriented, seemed to belong to the...architecture described by the visionaries of the Bible." In the faint moonlight, "the bouquet on the table assumed the

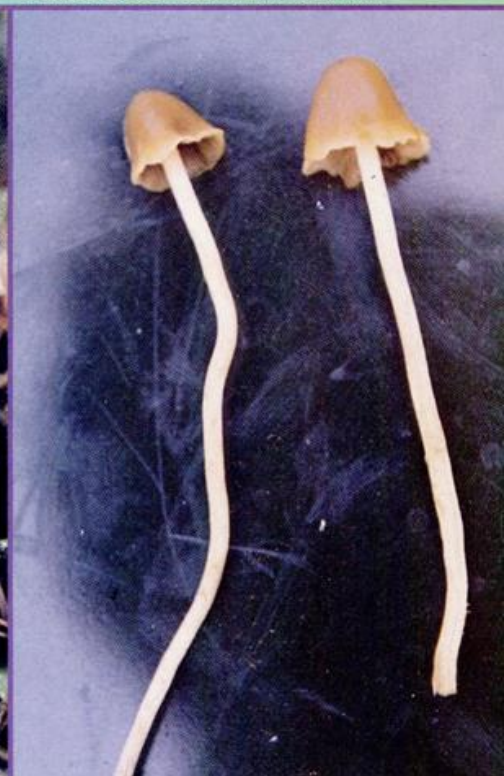
PSILOCYBE BAEOCYSTIS



AMANITA MUSCARIA



PSILOCYBE SEMILANCEATA



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN ALLEN



dimensions and shape of an imperial conveyance, a triumphant car, drawn by...creatures known only to mythology."

Mushrooms have apparently been ceremonially employed in Mesoamerica for many centuries. Several early sources have suggested that Mayan languages in Guatemala had mushrooms named for the underworld. Miniature mushroom stones, 2200 years of age, have been found in archaeological sites near Guatemala City, and it has been postulated that stone mushroom effigies buried with a Mayan dignitary suggested a connection with the Nine Lords of the Xibalba, described in the sacred book *Popol Vuh*. Actually, more than 200 mushroom stone effigies have been discovered, the oldest dating from the first millennium B.C. Although the majority are Guatemalan, some have been unearthed in El Salvador and Honduras and others as far north as Vera Cruz and Guerrero in Mexico. It is now clear that whatever the use of these "mushroom stones," they indicate the great antiquity of a sophisticated sacred use of hallucinogenic mushrooms.

A superb statue of Xochipilli, Aztec Prince of Flowers, from the early sixteenth century, was recently discovered on the slopes of Mt. Popocatepetl. His face is in ecstasy, as though seeing visions in an intoxication; his head is slightly tilted, as though hearing voices. His body is engraved with stylized flowers which have been identified as sacred, most of them inebriating plants. The pedestal on which he sits is decorated with a design representing cross-sections of the caps of *Psilocybe aztecorum*, an hallucinogenic mushroom known only from this volcano. Thus Xochipilli undoubtedly represents not simply the Prince of Flowers, but more specifically the Prince of Inebriating Flowers, including the mushrooms which, in Nahuatl poetry, were called "flowers" and "flowers that intoxicate."

Have psilocybin-containing mushrooms ever been employed as magico-religious hallucinogens in the New World? The answer is probably yes.

A species of *Psilocybe* and possibly also *Stropharia* are used today near the classic Maya ceremonial center of Palenque, and hallucinogenic mushrooms have been reported in use along the border between Chiapas in Mexico and Guatemala. Whether these modern mushroom practices in the Maya region represent vestiges of former use or have been recently introduced from Oaxaca is not yet possible to say.

**He saw the
stonework in
brilliant colors,
gold and onyx and
ebony, extending
beyond the reach
of sight, in vistas
measureless to
man.**

Nevertheless, evidence is now accumulating to indicate that a mushroom cult flourished in prehistoric times—from 100 B.C. to about A.D. 300-400 in northwestern Mexico: in Colima, Jalisco, and Nayarit. Funerary effigies, with two "horns" protruding from the head, are believed to represent male and female "deities" or priests associated with mushrooms. Traditions among contemporary Huichol Indians in Jalisco also suggest the former religious use of these fungi "in ancient times."

What about South America, where these psychoactive mushrooms abound? There is no evidence of such use today, but indications of their apparent former employment are many. The Yurimagua Indians of the Peruvian Amazon were reported in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries to be drinking a potentially inebriating beverage made from a "tree fungus." The Jesuit

report stated that the Indians "mix mushrooms that grow on fallen trees with a kind of reddish film that is found usually attached to rotting trunks. This film is very hot to the taste. No person who drinks this brew fails to fall under its effects after three draughts of it, since it is so strong, or more correctly, so toxic." It has been suggested that the tree mushroom might have been the psychoactive *Psilocybe yungensis*, which occurs in this region.

In Colombia, many anthropomorphic gold pectorals with two dome-like ornaments on the head have been found. They are in the so-called Carien style, and the majority of them have been unearthed in the Sinú area of northwestern Colombia and in the Calima region on the Pacific coast. For lack of a better term, they have been called "telephone-bell gods," since the hollow semi-spherical ornaments resemble the bells of old-fashioned telephones. It has been suggested that they represent mushroom effigies. The discovery of similar artifacts in Panama and Costa Rica and one in Yucatan might be interpreted to suggest a prehistoric continuum of a sacred mushroom cult from Mexico to South America.

Further to the south in South America, there is archaeological evidence that may suggest the religious importance of mushrooms. Moche effigy stirrup vessels from Peru, for example, have mushroom-like caphalic ornaments.

While the archaeological evidence is convincing, the almost complete lack of reference in colonial literature to such use of mushrooms, and the absence of any known modern hallucinogenic use of mushrooms among aboriginal groups of South America, gives cause for caution in the interpretation of what otherwise might easily be interpreted as ancient mushroom effigies from south of Panama. If, however, it becomes evident that the various archaeological artifacts from South America mentioned above do represent hallucinogenic mushrooms, then the area for their significance in America will be greatly amplified.



Reprinted from *Plants of the Gods: Origins of Hallucinogenic Use*, published by Alfred van der Marck Editions, New York, 1987. © 1979 by McGraw-Hill Book Company (UK) Limited, Maidenhead, England.

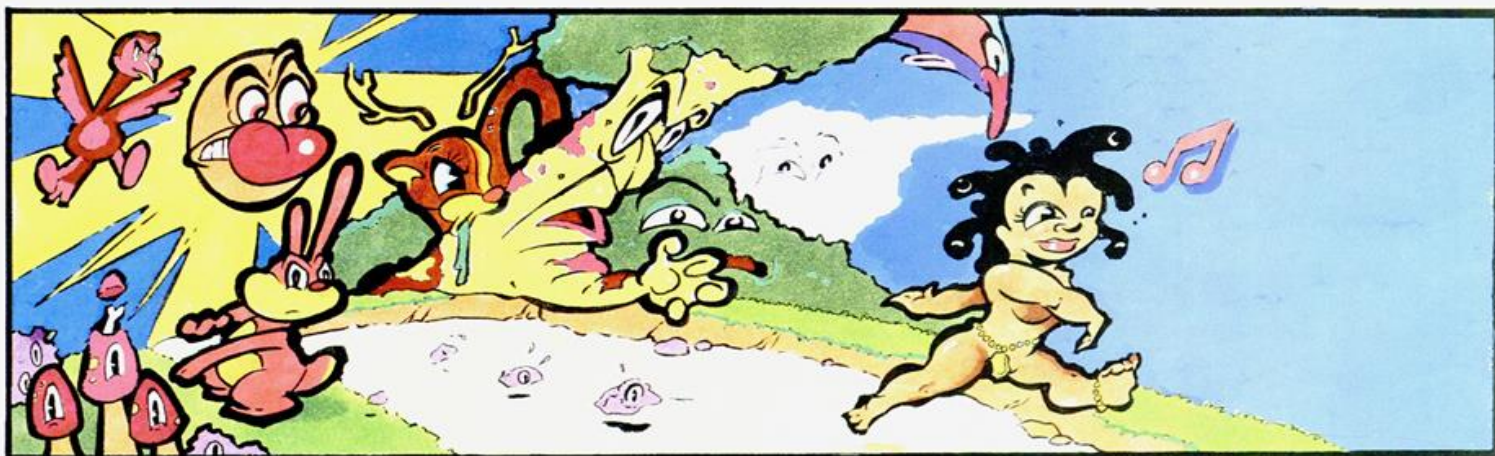
A photograph of a forest floor. In the foreground, there are several mushrooms. One is a large, dark brown, fan-shaped mushroom with a thick, pale stem. To its right is a smaller, light-colored mushroom with a textured, almost scaly cap. The ground is covered in green grass and ferns. In the background, there are more ferns and a line of trees under a blue sky with some clouds.

Mushrooms Down Under

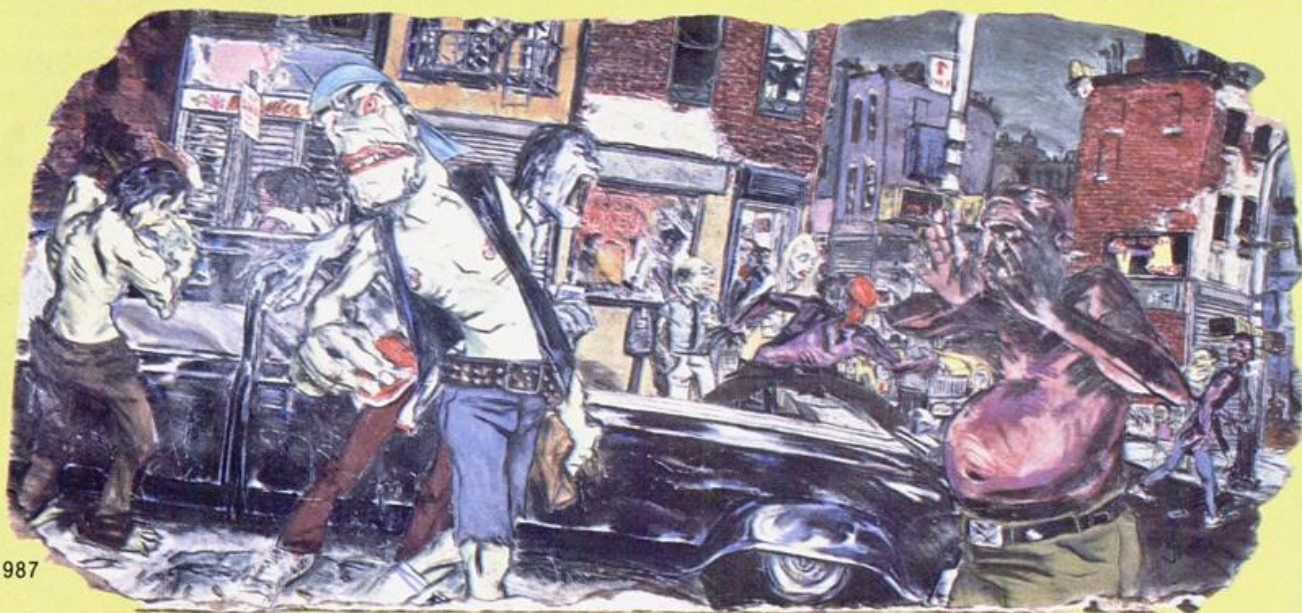
Photo by Dick Hoole



ZOE







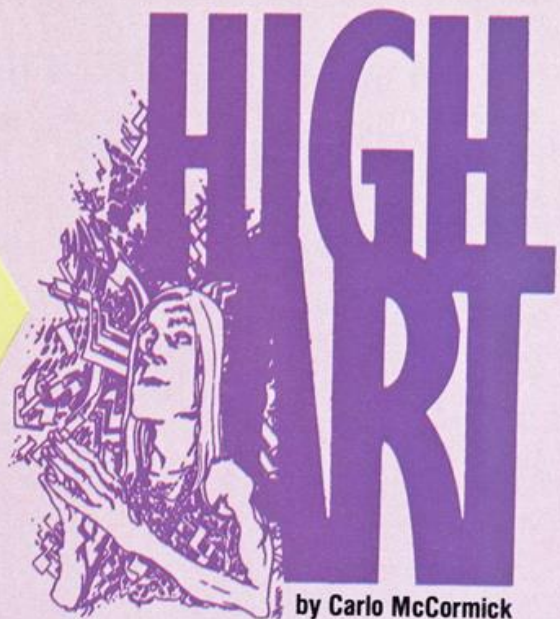


▲ FRIED WINGS 5, pastel on paper, 40" x 54", 1987.

◀ FRIED WINGS 3, pastel on sheet rock, 4' x 9', 1986.

▶ BLESSED BE THE NAMES OF MARGUERITE AND JAMES, mixed media, 20" x 30", 1986.

JAMES ROMBERGER



by Carlo McCormick

HIGH ART is not exclusively a vision of the sublime, it can also be the grim visage of the profane. JAMES ROMBERGER portrays the grotesque urban nightmare that lurks in the shadows of our cultural exclusivity. His is not a condescending view of moral authority or glamorized romantic indulgence, it is the hyper-real grasp of intimate personal confrontation. Employing the dramatic dynamics mastered during his tenure at Marvel Comics, Romberger illustrates a rotting garden of earthly delights. We see the human condition defiled and abused, the sores, the scabs and the crusty grime that grows on the wretched bodies of junkies and winos. We smell the detritus of man's degradation, the rotting humanity buried in a quagmire of waste. We feel the blank stare and frustrated frown of the helpless, the homeless, the hopeless, and spin downward with them in a vertigo of wanton frenzy.

Reproduced on these pages is a drug scenario not so seductive as the usual psychedelic euphoria this column prefers to present, but one which the artist chose specifically for **HIGH TIMES**. Romberger is not preaching some trite message of "just say no," but he's not closing his eyes either. He's just serving up a slice-of-life; a pound of putrid flesh still bleeding from the jagged edge of the artist's pencil.





A STORY WITH
FEW MORELS
by Mel Zimmer

● Black Morel—Boyne Valley, Michigan
Photo by Mel Zimmer



The first time I'd ever heard of Morels was in the mid-sixties. I was an acting apprentice in a repertory acting company, and that year the Ford Foundation paid a poet to hang out with the company in hope that he would get into writing plays. He gave everyone in the company a poem about Morels for Xmas.

The company was Arena Stage Theatre in Washington, D.C., and some of my social life happened to be on Capitol Hill. A girlfriend of mine from Indiana got a care package of some beautiful White Morels from home, and shared them with me one night at dinner. After tasting them, I understood why the poet had wanted to share his poem with us.

I did not encounter Morels again until 1975. I was flying a kite at a farm I was living at in the Pennsylvania countryside. My seven-year-old daughter walked up and asked, "Which hand?" I chose her right hand and she showed me five Black Morels she had just picked on the edge of the woods. She knew them from watercolors and photographs in my library of mushroom ID books.

Now there is enough of a wallop in the Early Morel to cause loss of muscle coordination if you eat a substantial serving. But, make no mistake, the high associated with Morels is more in the hunt itself, the gratification of finding them when the hunt is successful, and the exquisite flavor a meal of the better Morels rewards you with.

Morel season is a fine and subtle one. First the Verpas come in, the Early Morels, and this occurs all during April. All this depends upon the onset of spring, on wooded shores built of rubble carried here and deposited at the end of the ice age.

You have the feeling that Morel hypha is generated from woolly mammoth dung beneath the leaves carpeting the floor of the forest.

My girlfriend Lee and I decided to visit for two weeks in early May, when the Morel Festivals and National (Morel) Mushroom Hunt take place in the upper part of Michigan's lower peninsula. Some Early Morels are supposed to be around then. Blacks, Whites, Sponges, and the beautiful Golden ones are all supposed to follow (according to the literature we had, the best of which was written and published at the University of Michigan).

You want it to be warm and rainy to bring the Morels to fruit. The first night Lee and I camped outside of Boyne City the temperature dropped to 26°F just before dawn, and we awakened to a dry, windy day. It was so dry, in fact, that the next county was losing its topsoil to the drought and wind.

The woods we searched were covered with dry transparent leaves that crunched loudly underfoot as we walked. Within a week the governor would call a state of emergency due to the drought, banning campfires and smoking in the woods of the entire upper part of the lower peninsula.

We were getting very frustrated. After three days of hunting we were emptyhanded. Then our luck changed. We met Tony Williams, the world's greatest Morel hunter.

Tony and his friend, Glen, own the Depot Restaurant in Boyne City. It was once an old brick train station, but now it was their restaurant. Lee and I met Tony while having lunch there. He had been raised locally by serious Morel-hunting parents. Tony is the only person

to win the competition five years in a row.

Soon, we were crashing through the woods in Tony's battered, four-wheel-drive jeep. The road was two very rough and uneven ruts bounded on either side by stands of mixed hardwoods. Trillium and wild leeks covered the rather dry looking floor.

Tony walked at the most rapid pace of anyone I have known in fifteen years of hunting mushrooms. He said when he competed in contests, he trained a few hours every day by running up and down hillsides. He had given up competing largely because of cheating. He'd been raised by Morel-picking parents, and enjoyed picking them with his family and for his restaurant.

We only managed to find seven Black Morels in about an hour and a half of hunting, but that wasn't bad considering how awfully dry it was everywhere we searched.

That night I dreamed Lee and I were out hunting for Morels in woods so dry the leaves on the floor were turning to powder. We ran deep into the woods and searched frantically, but could find no Morels.

Then Lee came to a glade that was cool and moist and found a large cache of Golden Morels standing full and fresh all around her. She filled her basket with hundreds of them. In the dream I photographed her picking them, but took none myself because she had found them. It was the competition. We found our way to a clearing where the contest officials counted her mushrooms. She had over three hundred. The next nearest competitor had only twenty. Lee seemed a sure winner. Then this couple who had been hanging out on the edge of the clearing came over. The guy looked just like Black Pete, the villain in Mickey Mouse, and his wife was big and fat.

All of their mushrooms were limpid and wet, almost rotten. It was apparent they were rotting from improper storage, but the contest officials gave them each a leather pouch with a gold coin in it. A very large Harley chopper came powering out of the woods and up to the officials. The heavily-tattooed biker aboard tried to turn in his find, and he broke open a paper grocery bag full of Early Morels even more rotten than the fat couple. I was yelling "No, no," as if I was underwater, and awoke to a cold, howling wind.

The contest itself was generally a failure since most competitors, some from as far away as Japan, came up with little or none. On the surface, it appeared there was some cheating going on, but it was impossible to prove.

We got seventeen Black Morels that day between us, Lee finding most of them. And we later were able to buy a lei of Black Morels from a biker who was dealing Early Morels at the festival. After the contest was over we went over to the Depot. Tony treated us to some Morel soup, and we said our goodbyes to his family and him since we were leaving the next day.

Except for the extreme cold, Michigan was a lot like California. The hunt was an experience we will never forget, and with the lei we did get over fifty Morels, which we are enjoying yet. If someday you choose to take the back-to-nature path, look alongside to see if some mushrooms are growing there. Maybe they can be of some use to you.



WHY have so many New Yorkers constructed towering antennas aimed at an obscure radio station in East Orange, New Jersey? And **WHY** has this tiny station become a powerful beacon of hope in a dark and dreary decade? Simple. Because **WFMU** has one of the most mind-blowing deejays around!!

His name is Bill Kelly and he's into Paul Simon, muzak, and disco. Just kidding folks! Kelly hates that shit as much as you do! Since 1978, he's been playing the best in psychopunkadelia, from 1964 to the present.

I recently visited Kelly and his lovely wife in their modest home in New Jersey, where they are busy raising two kids on a limited income. Kelly works as a salesman for a wire-manufacturing firm, but plans on opening his own

company this Fall. I'm happy to report he is **NOT** a boring archivist who collects minutia in a nerdlike frenzy, but a regular guy with a genuine love for real rock'n'roll who reads the *World Weekly News*.

"I just want to have fun," explains Kelly. "I hope that Bigfoot, Joe Isuzu, Dinosaurs in South America, Idi Amin's Fast Food Restaurant, and a cool mixture of r&b, doo-wop, '60s garage (mindless teenage brainrot), and some r-r-r-real rock'n'roll make it a fun show on the weekend."

Kelly's tapes are already circulating around New York with Deadlike intensity, so maybe you'll be lucky enough to hear one sometime. Those in the New York area can tune in Sundays from noon to 3 p.m., 91.1 FM.

Bill Kelly's Mindless Teenage



Brainrot

“I was born August 18, 1949 and had few problems with childhood. I have two sisters—one two years older and one two years younger. Most of my family likes opera and classical music.

“For my ninth birthday I bought a small transistor radio. A few days later I bought my first record: *IT'S LATE* by Ricky Nelson. Then I bought *SHOUT* by The Isley Brothers. My parents thought I was crazy.

“Two years later I graduated to a table radio. Late at night I'd tune into the far-away stations: **WOWO** in Fort Wayne, Indiana; **WKBW** in Buffalo; **CKLW** in Windsor, Ontario. They'd play great songs like *HEY JOE* by The Leaves, *I SEE THE LIGHT* by the Five Americans, or *PUSHING TOO HARD* by The Seeds. I used to listen to those stations because they'd play music New York stations wouldn't touch.

“After graduating from high school, I went to Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts. I started listening to obscure AM stations in New England. **WORC** in Worcester always had a reputation as a big break-out

station. They'd play anything late at night.

“Holy Cross was widely regarded as a drinking school. There was an article in *PLAYBOY* during my freshman year naming it as one of the top ten drinking schools in the country. That changed. Four years later whole corridors in the dorms were filled with pot smoke. It was almost unbelievable. I tried pot, but I was never a big drug user.

“My first radio show was on September 2, 1967, on **WCHC**, the sound of 640. *The sound habit of the campus and the sound habit to get into. My name is Bill Kelly and this is Underground.* I did the show once a week for three years.

“Back then my favorite band was probably The Jefferson Airplane, but I wouldn't want that in the interview, because I don't care for them anymore, hahaha. Some of my favorite songs were *I HAD TOO MUCH TO DREAM LAST NIGHT* by The Electric Prunes, *DIRTY WATER* by The Standells, and *LIAR, LIAR* by the Castaways.

“Woodstock was probably the worst thing that happened to rock'n'roll, because you had 500,000 stoned, stupid hippies out in the mud drooling on themselves and getting all



BILL KELLY AT THE WFMU STUDIO.

screwed up and listening to a lot of mediocre bands—many of whom were mellow singer/songwriters and slow psychedelic bands. And yet that became the beacon for pop music in the early '70s. So we had all kinds of drivel like James Taylor and Elton John and Chicago, ad nauseum. Disco was almost a relief compared to the misery we had to put up with in the early '70s. Not that I like disco. I *hate* disco. But it wasn't until 1976, when the British new wave arrived, that things started to open up again.

"I don't think there's anything really wrong with smoking pot once in a while, but the association of drugs and music in the '60s killed the best music. People started producing more mellow music. They claimed it was more lyrical and tuneful, but it was just drivel. R-r-real rock'n'roll is an arrogant, snotty, raw form of power pop. Not psychedelic, not punk, just four great guys taking three great chords, putting them onto two great sides of one great single. The years between Woodstock and the Ramones were pretty empty.

"After I left college, I worked as a traveling salesman. It took me over a year to get a decent job out of college. I got to travel all over New England, listening to radio stations. I always looked for something that rivaled what I'd heard back in high school, but never found it.

"Eventually it dawned on me that a station like WFMU, which had a freeform format, might be interested if I put together a series of demo tapes. I got on the air in August, 1978, doing fill-ins.

"I never had it in mind to do a "'60s Garage Show.'" I just figured that '60s garage was deadlier than the pharaohs and played it only because it was always my music of choice. My first show featured The 13th Floor Elevators, Lothar & the Hand People, The Electric Prunes, The Barbarians, and The Ultimate Spinach. Someone called me on the phone and in true brain-damaged fashion slurred, 'The '60s is now, man.' I like to think that on that day the bad seed was planted for a second wave of garage music.

"Much as I hate the Beatles, they were responsible for the first wave, so hats off to them. Because of the Beatles, all these kids with original ideas untainted by commercial radio decided to form bands: The Seeds, The Chocolate Watch Band, The Headstones, The Standells. Texas was the most prolific state, with The Bad Seeds, The Bobby Fuller Four, The Five Americans, The Zakary Thaks.

"The second wave started in the late '70s with the second British invasion. Bands like Wire, who recorded *DOT DASH* back in '77, are just now becoming popular. My favorite current bands are The Cynics and The Chesterfield Kings. There's also a lot of good bands coming out of Sweden and Australia.

"I have friends who absolutely *love* The Grateful Dead and will go anywhere to see them. They'll even take LSD on occasion, even though they're doctors and insurance salesmen, fat and forty. But I can't stand The Grateful Dead. I'll play one song a year by them just to say I did it, but if you have to take acid to enjoy music, maybe there's something wrong with the music. " "

BASEBALL FEVER

Ah, it's World Series time—you kick back, swig some brew, catch a buzz, and enjoy the year's best baseball. But in 1987, fans and players had to fight for their rights as the new prohibitionists forced cutbacks in beer sales at the ball park, while players were publicly humiliated with the threat and the results of "voluntary" drug tests. In its attempt to repress baseball, the anti-drug-and-drink factions deny the game's lively history, one of rebellion and outrageous off-the-field behavior.

Ballplayers and their fans will always be a rowdy bunch. Efforts to "clean up" the game are the latest battle in over one hundred years of conflict between baseball and self-appointed reformers. A religiously inspired ban on Sunday baseball ended in the 1930s, but now the prohibitionists are back at the gates of the ballpark.

Potsmokers Unanimous

"Can you find a professional ball team today without a group of casual pot smokers? I doubt it." This was noted baseball writer *Roger Kahn's* reaction to the scent of weed on the team bus in 1983, when he wrote his story of one year as the owner of an upstate New York minor league. Rather than expressing shock at pot-smoking ballplayers, he reports getting drunk with the team manager in the front "while sweet smoke curled about the back of the bus." It's hard to believe that all minor league players are now forced to submit to drug tests.

Such tolerance has not been

BY JONATHAN GITLIN

common in baseball circles. This year, New York Mets' pitching ace *Dwight Gooden* was forced to publicly apologize for failing a preseason drug test. Of course, Gooden can still pitch, so the money-hungry owners will keep him around. In 1975, the Mets released an aging *Cleon Jones* after forcing him to apologize for being found asleep and nude in a car (with a woman, a joint, and two pipes) by St. Petersburg police. Jones and Gooden both had to express shame and regret before the sports media at a time when Americans were indulging in all forms of illegal highs. For instance, when *Tig McGraw* answered the question, "Do you prefer AstroTurf or natural grass?" by responding, "I don't know, I've never smoked AstroTurf," it was a joke that became a part of baseball folklore.

While one player is known to have pitched a game tripping on acid ("*Dock Ellis* and the *Electric Baseball Game*," **HIGH TIMES**, August 1987), far more common was the household variety upper—greenies. Freely dispensed in most clubhouses in the sixties and seventies, amphetamines fueled tiring or hung over ball-

players. Oakland pitcher *Chuck Dobson* once explained, "When you've got the flu and you've got to pitch, what are you going to do?" *Jim Bouton*, in his classic baseball exposé *Ball Four*, said, "I've taken greenies—they make you feel so great you think you're really smoking when you're not."

Bouton's book told the truth about ballplayers' off-the-field antics: drinking, smoking, screwing, and peeping through hotel windows to the dismay of the conservative baseball establishment. He also fought for political causes, appearing at an anti-Vietnam war demonstration after the end of the 1968 season. *Tom Seaver*, who retired early this year, also spoke out politically. Before the 1969 World Series, he proposed the idea of buying a half-page ad in the *New York Times* that would read, "If the Mets can win the World Series, then we can get out of Viet Nam." Before the final game of the '69 Series, Seaver received a telegram of support from *Abbie Hoffman*, *Jerry Rubin*, *Tom Hayden*, and the rest of the *Chicago Eight* during their conspiracy trial. While some claimed politics had no place in

baseball, *Rusty Staub*, in June 1968, was fined a day's pay for refusing to play on the day designated a national day of mourning for the slain *Robert Kennedy*.

Getting Wrecked at the Game – A Tradition

Beer and baseball have been associated with each other since the game's beginnings. At the turn of the century, the sight of an empty beer barrel before a ballgame was considered good luck, prompting *New York Giants'* manager *John McGraw* to have a wagonload of empty barrels hauled past the Polo Grounds during the 1905 World Series. Not everyone approved of the booze'n'baseball connection however—in 1910, according to baseball authority *Bill James*, a baseball union organizer unsuccessfully tried to require a promise of abstinence as a condition of all player contracts.

A few years later, *Ring Lardner's* fictional ballplayer "*The Busher*" reported "getting logey" on San Francisco's potent steam beer in the classic *You Know Me Al*.

The forces of Prohibition soon gained the upper hand. Vendors were enlisted by league officials to identify unruly fans in the stands and serve as witnesses against them in court. By 1931, after years of prohibition, unhappy dry fans greeted *President Hoover* at the World Series with the chant, "We want beer, we want beer!"

By the time Prohibition ended, this century's greatest

continued on page 76

IT'S SICK!

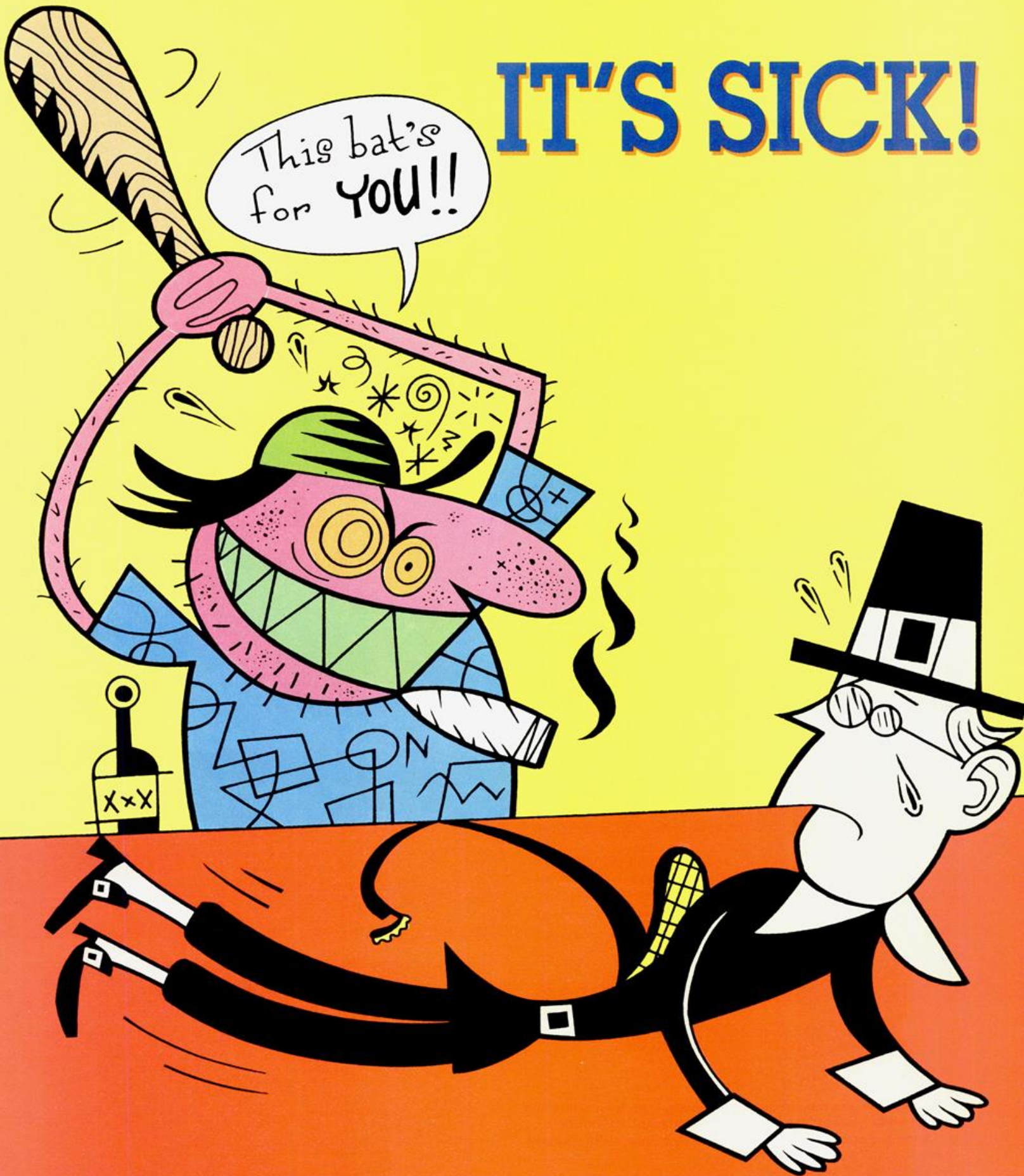
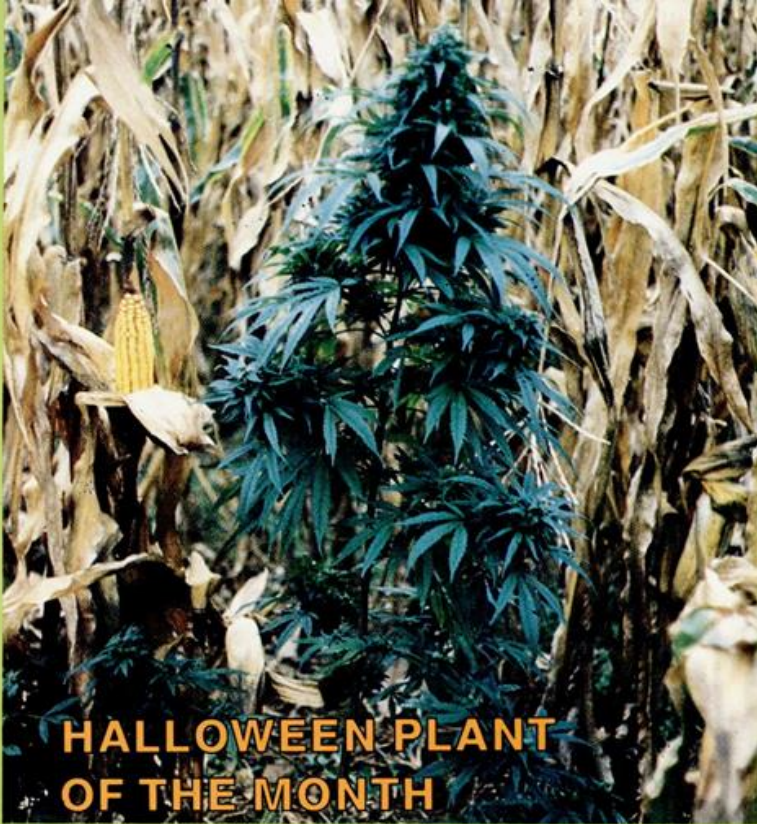


ILLUSTRATION BY J.D. KING



HALLOWEEN PLANT OF THE MONTH

The Plant: Started under 24" fluorescent tubes and put outside in late May. Deer damage on the lower half of the plant can be seen in photo. The corn cob has been partially shucked to show size comparison and even though it might not look too big, it was a hefty cob. This was the fattest bud I ever saw! It was an *Afghani-indica* x *Kashmiri-indica*, harvested October 4.

I have been growing pot for eight years. My first pot was from Oaxacan seed. It was fruity and tasted great. Since then my crops have improved every year in total yield, quality, size of buds, and varieties. I have been fortunate enough to acquire some very desirable varieties such as *Afghani*, *Kashmiri*, *Cambodian*, and *Hawaiian*.

I keep accurate records of most everything. I get aerial maps from the U.S. government, soil analysis tests from the state university, and wear camouflage when I visit the plants at night. Above all, I keep my mouth shut.

Naturally, I have had losses due to animals and corn harvesters. I have dodged hunters, helicopters, and even hurricanes. I have pulled thousands of burrs and related things from my clothing. I have crawled on my belly through mud and low shrubs carrying fertilizer to my plants and scratched my body open on stickers and thorns from head to toe.

But when the plants are all in, the seed restocked, and the stash sealed and stored, growers of the ganja plant like me can finally let out our sighs of relief, take another hit, and thank Mother Nature for the wondrous opportunity to partake in her endless cycles of life and rebirth right here on planet Earth.

—THE BLACK SWAN
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

HALLOWEEN GARDEN OF THE MONTH

Until I have the means to grow indoors, I am forced into the Maine wilderness to face rip-offs, cops, and Mother Nature.

Dazed and confused, the Busch monkey stands in the shade of a mixed *indica* and *sativa* garden.

—TOKIN' BEER WOLF
CENTRAL MAINE

ASKED

BY ED ROSENTHAL

[I did not know that there was a Halloween Photo Contest, but I must have mentioned it in the column. Why else would so many people send me Halloween-type photos — Ed R.]

HALLOWEEN PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

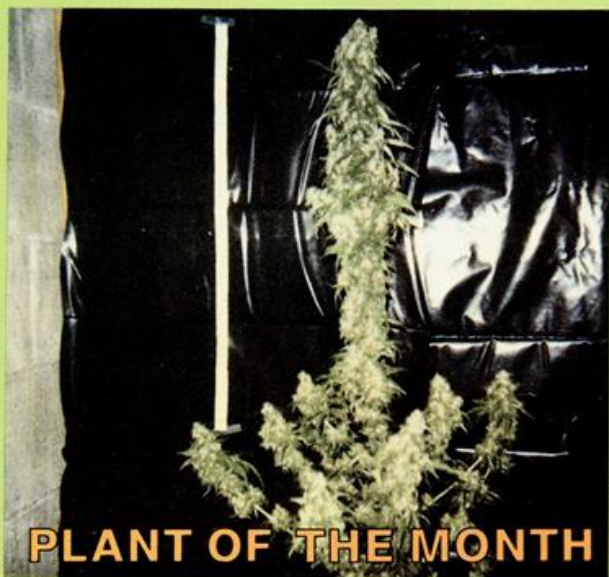
SPECIAL HALLOWEEN BUD



These buds came from plants grown under 100-watt and 250-watt fixtures. The plants survived an emergency move and 100°F San Joaquin Valley summer. Under the heat stress, this *indica* strain's leaves became thin, short, and narrow. Yield was low but not bad for a first indoor try.

—THE FRESNO GUMBY & CO.
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA





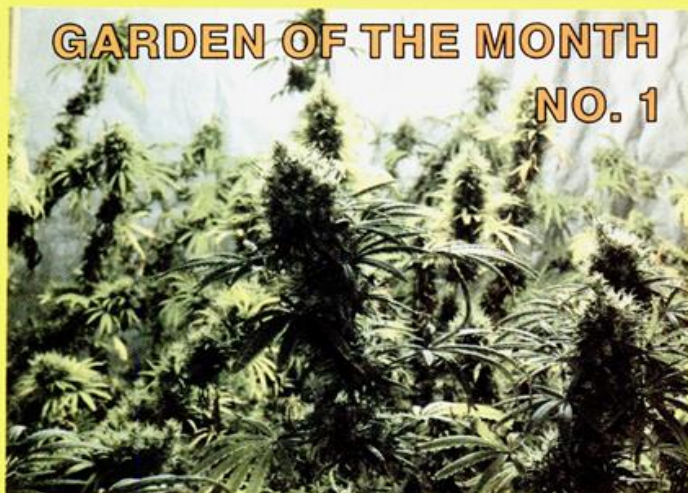
PLANT OF THE MONTH

Is anyone using Rockwool? If you are not, you should be. It is the greatest thing since the roach clip.

Now I'm switching to the Dutch plantlet method. The plant in the photo was forced at 14" and bloomed for ten weeks. The entire plant was grown from seed to finish in five months. The root system fits in a two-gallon container. The tape in the picture is 25" long. The seed is SSSC's "Khyber Afghan Creeper." It has a sweet *sativa* smell. Not a very harsh smoke, but smooth and sailing.

—L.L.

ALASKA



GARDEN OF THE MONTH NO. 1

The pictures were taken at 7½ weeks. Last of the fresh virgin pistils are screaming for pollen! Hybrids sure do grow like crazy! This is too fun!

GROWING SPECIFICATIONS:

One metal halide (MH) on a 6' shuttle.

CO₂ constant distribution (only about 600-700 ppm can be processed with my one light setup. Any more is waste.)

FOIL: Dull side out.

Hydroponic reservoir system.

MEDIUM: 50-50 mix of vermiculite and perlite.

Two blends of fertilizer (including trace elements) for both the grow and bloom stages.

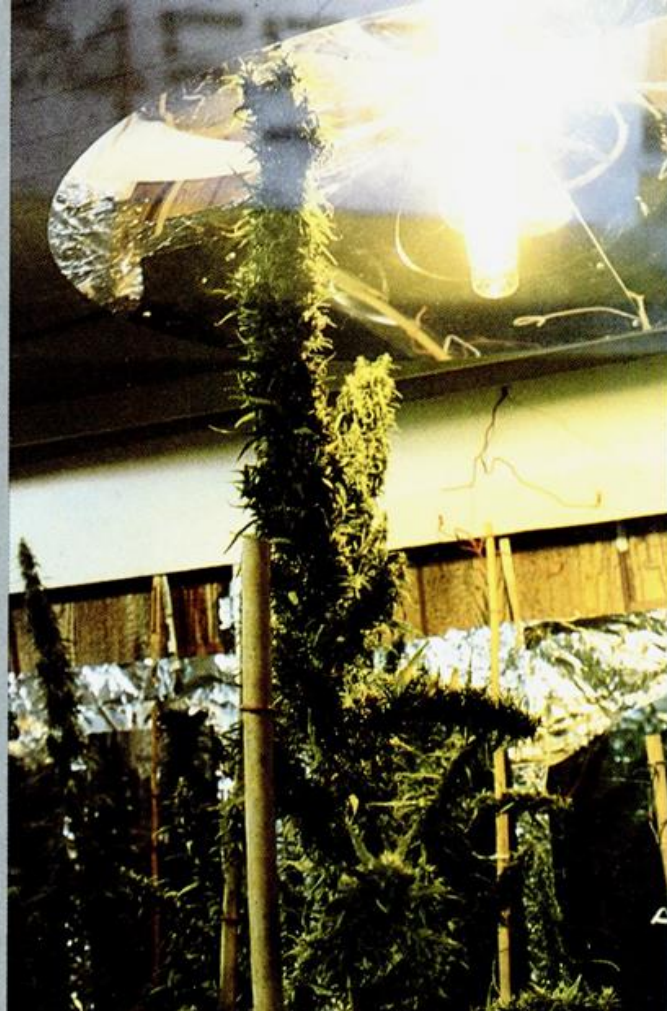
Fan to break microclimates on the leaf structure, blend CO₂ into the room's atmosphere, and make for strong branches to hold up heavy flowers.

ION GENERATOR: Not for me, for the neighbors. I like the smell of ripe buds!

—YANKEE

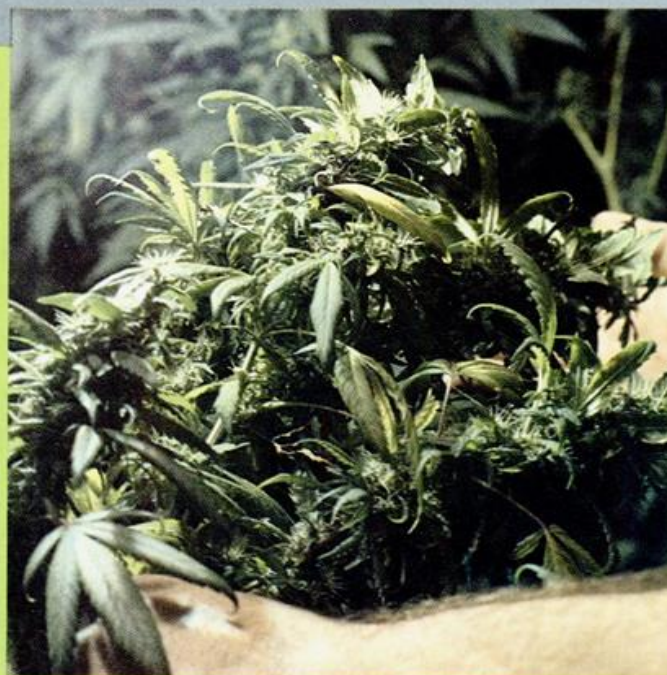
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

[To view the garden properly, I awarded "Yankee" a double GOTM winner—ED R.]



GARDEN OF THE MONTH NO. 2

—JACK & THE BUDSTALK



BUD OF THE MONTH

—STICKY FINGERS
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

continued on page 71

THE DOPE ON SOUTH AFRICAN

A good place to check out different types of South African pot is the Transvaal Coffeeshop in Amsterdam, Holland. This shop specializes in South African pot and the dealer is quite knowledgeable. Most of this weed comes complete with seed. Pictured here are some varieties available at the shop last spring.

Adopted by Ed Rosenthal from a paper by Prof. J. Offermeier, Director, Research Unit for the Medical Research Council, South Africa.

Recently I received a letter from a correspondent in South Africa which read in part as follows, "...the enclosed photostat is a paper delivered at a recent dope conference (early 1985) here in South Africa; perhaps you will find the information useful..."

Although I respect the almost total boycott of South Africa, I take exception to the marijuana information trade since there is no, absolutely no, financial or economic aspect, and marijuana is a criminal offense considered to have political overtones in South Africa. In other words, the government has declared that pot smokers are enemies of the state.

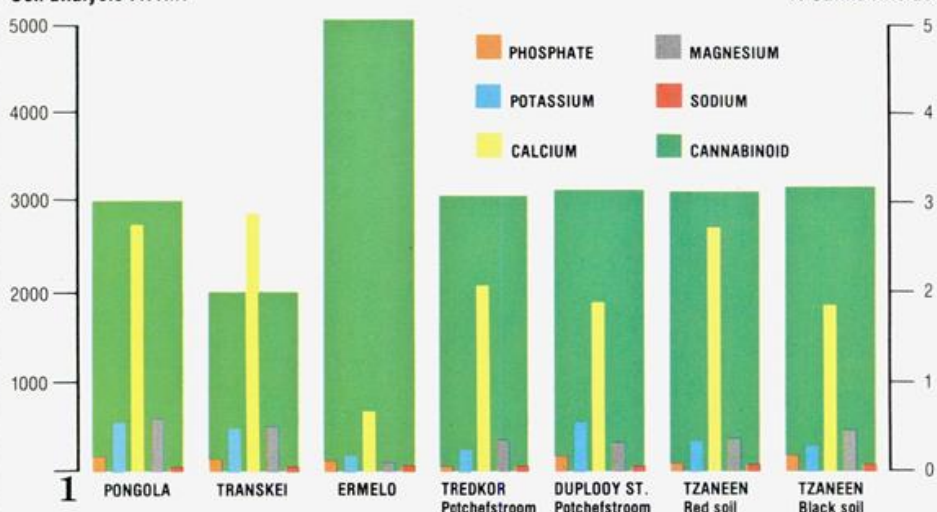
Here's the info from the article—Ed R.

SOME CHEMICAL BACKGROUND

● **CANNABINOIDS** are the main group of chemical compounds found in cannabis. A number of these are psycho-active. Tetrahydrocannabinol (1THC) is considered the primary active ingredient responsible for the high. It is most effective when smoked rather than when taken orally. This is because the 1 THC is often in the acidic form (it is holding a water molecule) in its natural state. The water is evaporated (decarboxylated) when the herb is smoked. This renders the THC about 3 times as potent.

SOUTH AFRICAN weed contains a high proportion of THC while its cannabidiol (CBD) content is negligible. No psycho-activity is associated with CBD, although it does have anti-epileptic properties. (It is also associated with a buzz, but not a high, and may be somewhat disorienting and tiring.—Ed)

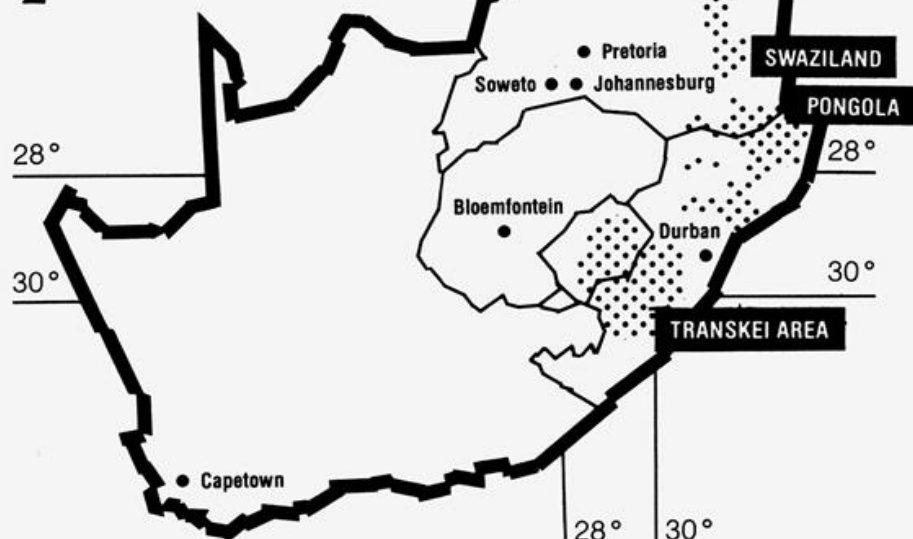
TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF CANNABINOIDS OF MEDIUM-SIZED PLANTS (F) FROM DIFFERENT REGIONS
Soil analysis P.P.M. % Cannabinoids



Notice the low amounts of calcium, potassium and magnesium in the soil from the Ermelo District. Could the high total cannabinoid content of these plants be related to that?

AREAS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WHERE MARIJUANA IS CULTIVATED

2



THC and 1 tetrahydrocannabinavarine (1THCN), a derivative of 1THC are also psychoactive. Researchers think THCN has $\frac{1}{4}$ the potency of THC. (On the other hand, THCN, which is also found in central African pot such as Nigerian and Congolese, may be responsible for the pot's extreme spaciness. THCN may be responsible for the highs associated with the best *sativas*—Ed) CBD is almost absent in South African pot, while THCN is found in pot from some areas (the Pongola District). No other cannabinoids are thought to be psychoactive.

THC AND THE PLANT

Young, actively growing plants contain higher concentrations of THC in their upper parts as the plants change from vegetative to flowering stages. The highest concentration of THC is in the mature flowers.

Deficiencies of potassium (K) in the soil influence the yield. High soil K seems to correspond inversely with cannabinoid content. Calcium content may also be conversely related to THC production. See chart # 1.

Unfortunately, the figures in all of these tables are distorted by the crude methods these researchers use to measure sample content. First they dry the plant at about 200°F for two hours. Then they grind the whole plant or plant part up without manicuring it, so that both bud and other vegetative material are measured together.

Even with the poor sampling techniques, all of these varieties measure fairly high cannabinoid contents.

CBN, cannabinol, is considered a degradation product of THC. Once again, despite the technology available to these researchers, they show poor sampling technique. They do not state at what point in development these samples were taken. Plants growing vegetatively are certain to have a different profile than plants in early or late flowering.

Notice that South Africa's weed growing areas fall within the 30th latitude, N. South African weed is *sativa*, it tends to be vigorous, branchy rather than a tight bush, and very early maturing. Excellent for crossing with *indicas* to which it lends vigor and total weight. ●

MEAN PERCENTAGES Δ^1 -THC AND Δ^1 -THCN IN PLANTS CULTIVATED FROM SEEDS ORIGINATING FROM THREE REGIONS

3 LOCATION	MALE		FEMALE	
	Δ^1 -THC	Δ^1 -THCN	Δ^1 -THC	Δ^1 -THCN
TRANSKEI	1,4355	0,0622	2,3614	0,2379
DURBAN	2,4703	0,0948	2,6254	0,1095
GOLELA (Pongola District)	0,9912	0,8563	2,5962	1,6297

MEAN PERCENTAGE OF Δ^1 -THC AND CBN IN PLANTS FROM PONGOLA AND TRANSKEI

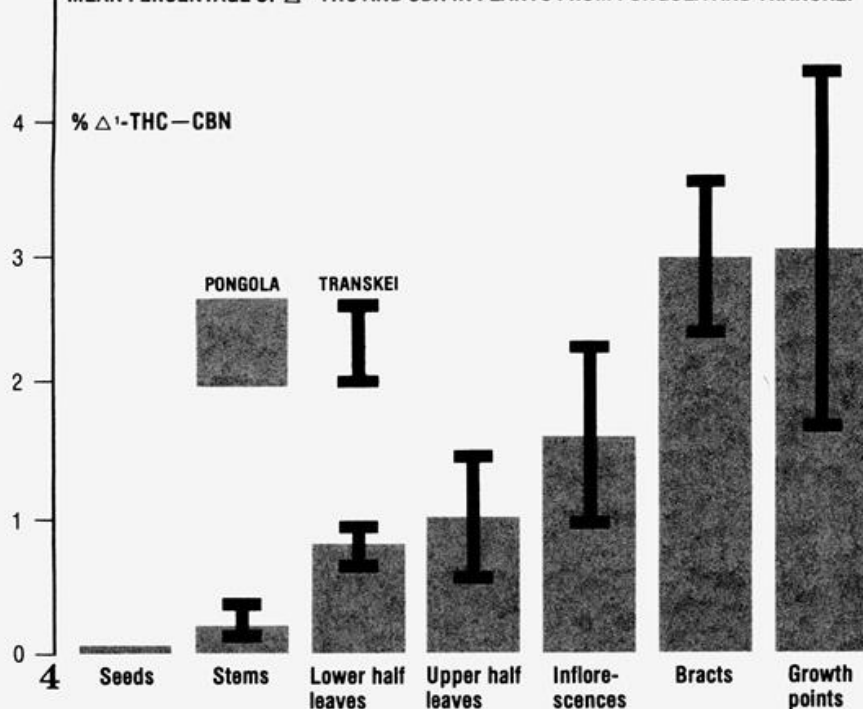


TABLE 1. POTTING SOIL MIXES EVALUATED

MIX ID	NAME OF MIX	MANUFACTURER	PACKAGE INGREDIENT STATEMENT*
1	Supersoil	Rod McLellan Company San Francisco, CA 94080	Fir bark, redwood, Canadian peat, pure sand
2	Perma-Gro All-Purpose Potting Soil	Mfg'd for Nurseryland by Jungle Growth Products, Inc. Torrance, CA 90503	86% composted forest materials, 14% perlite and sand
3	Bandini Potting Soil Formula 105	Bandini Fertilizer Company Los Angeles, CA 90023	Finely ground fir bark, Canadian sphagnum peat moss, sterile horticultural sand
4	Good Earth Potting Soil	Wilbur-Ellis Company E. Irvine, CA 92650	Not listed (probably wood products, sand, perlite)†
5	Vita-Hume Outdoor Planting Mix	Anderson Organic Division of Hyponex Corporation Fort Wayne, IN 46801	Humus, peat, other ingredients essential to organic gardening
6	UniGrow Potting Soil	L&L Nursery Supply, Inc. Chino, CA 91710 Fremont, CA 94536	Redwood sawdust, ground fir bark, washed sand, peat moss, vermiculite
7	Power-O-Peat (sold by 20-lb bag)	Power-O-Peat P.O. Box 956 Gilbert, MN 55741-0956	75% organic peat moss, 15% perlite, 10% vermiculite
8	Gromulch Planting Mix	Kellogg Supply, Inc. Carson, CA 90745	Forest products and composted centrifuged sewage sludge
9	Unigrow African Violet mix	L&L Nursery Supply, Inc. Chino, CA 91710 Fremont, CA 94536	Redwood sawdust, ground fir bark, peat moss, washed sand, vermiculite, perlite
10	Hyponex Professional Mix Potting Soil	The Hyponex Co., Inc. Copley, OH 44321	Canadian sphagnum peat moss, peat humus, vermiculite, perlite, charcoal
11	Jiffy Mix	Care Free Garden Products P.O. Box 383 W. Chicago, IL 60185	Sphagnum peat moss and vermiculite
12	Jungle Growth House Plant Potting Mix	Jungle Growth Products, Inc. 14107 Crenshaw Blvd. Hawthorne, CA 90250	90% organic materials, 10% aeration and moisture retention materials (shredded bark or wood) plus perlite
13	Roger's Potting Soil Mix	Roger's Gardens Newport Beach, CA 92660	Forest products and compost with N, Ca, K, P, Mg, and Fe added
14	Black Magic House Plant Mix	Black Magic Products 8137 Elder Creek Road Sacramento, CA 95824	Forest products, perlite, peat moss, charcoal
15	K-Mart Potting Soil	Western Garden Marketing, Inc. Tempe, AZ 85283	Forest compost, perlite, sand

* Listed in order of decreasing volume.

† Estimated by visual inspection under magnification.

POTTING SOIL

pH is crucial!!

The chemical and physical properties of a potting mix determine its performance. Physically, to sustain plant growth, the mix must hold large quantities of water in a limited volume and yet maintain a high volume of aeration. Since soil in a container does not behave the same as in the field, potting mixes are typically formulated with a high percentage of bulky organic materials such as bark, wood chips, peat, or compost. These materials hold varying amounts of water and also create pockets of air in the mixture. Mixes usually contain additional nonorganic materials such as sand, vermiculite, or perlite, which provide additional aeration and structure.

Research has also shown that, chemically, quality potting soils must be low in soluble salts, slightly acidic and capable of holding essential nutrients for plant growth.

Potting soil mixes sold through retail garden supply outlets in California vary widely in their performance as growing media. Consumers have frequently reported unsatisfactory results with many mixes despite state labeling regulations designed to ensure that products are properly identified and are of high quality. Manufacturers are now required to place the names of the ingredients in decreasing order of volume on the product label.

This study was conducted to determine how useful the labeling information is in predicting the performance of potting soil mixes before they are purchased and used. Single bags of 15 widely available packaged potting soil mixes were purchased at random from various retail garden supply outlets in southern California (table 1). Their relevant

continued on page 69

TABLE 2. IMPORTANT PROPERTIES OF POTTING SOIL MIXES

Air @										
Mix ID	Total pore space	container capacity	Water	pH	EC	Organic matter	Nitrate (NO ₃)	Ammonium (NH ₄)	P	K
	% volume	% volume	%		dS/m	%	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm
1	79	12	34	6.1	2.8	39	355	6	201	516
2	66	9	135	5.9	0.85	97	1	43	61	694
3	89	13	67	4.3	4.0	50	360	32	173	1,052
4	87	19	38	6.7	6.0	51	2	25	165	3,000
5	71	6	80	4.4	9.1	50	16	43	10	152
6	68	8	49	6.2	2.1	41	3	32	206	556
7	77	12	248	4.4	0.3	93	49	6	9	72
8	75	13	84	4.9	11.5	45	1,770	359	150	1,072
9	73	10	59	6.4	1.0	38	4	23	106	364
10	58	9	67	4.5	9.2	52	28	61	10	200
11	85	13	91	5.8	1.8	48	710	21	53	1,060
12	67	12	121	6.7	1.6	95	8	407	143	1,152
13	88	20	164	7.2	1.4	90	9	27	190	1,128
14	67	9	152	7.5	0.7	88	6	37	38	2,560
15	60	12	87	6.3	1.4	68	68	261	18	892

Seeding growth in the different potting mixes varied widely. Some developed poor root systems and, in many instances, there were not enough roots to permit removal of a soil root plug intact from the test pot.

WASSON'S VOYAGE

continued from page 41

respective portions, the Señora crossing herself with the last swallow...

"At about 11:20 o'clock Allan leaned from his chair and whispered to me that he was having a chill. We wrapped him in a blanket. A little later he leaned over again and said, 'Gordon, I am beginning to see things,' to which I gave him the comforting reply that I was too...

"The patterns grew into architectural structures, with colonnades and architraves, patios of regal splendor, the stonework all in brilliant colors—gold and onyx and ebony—all harmoniously and ingeniously contrived, in richest magnificence extending beyond the reach of sight. These architectural visions seemed oriental, though at every stage I pointed out to myself that they could not be identified with any specific oriental country...

"At one point in the faint moonlight the bouquet on the table assumed the dimensions and shape of an imperial



conveyance, a triumphal car, drawn by zoological creatures conceivable only in an imaginary mythology, bearing a woman clothed in regal splendor. The visions came in endless succession, each growing out of the preceding one. We had the sensation that the walls of our humble house had vanished, that our untrammelled souls were floating in the empyrean, stroked by divine breezes, possessed of a divine mobility that would transport us anywhere on the wings of a thought. Only when by an act of conscious effort I touched the wall of Cayetano's house would I be brought back to the confines of the room where we all were, and this touch with reality

seemed to be what precipitated nausea in me."

What Wasson experienced and felt during his first trip on the magic mushrooms convinced him that he would never do it again, but a few nights later he asked Maria Sabina if she would repeat her performance in order to record the proceedings. On this occasion his friend Allan Richardson declined partaking of the mushrooms so he could photograph the session in its proper perspective.

The subsequent news of Wasson's startling discoveries under the influence of inebriating mushrooms became public knowledge in 1957, with the publication of a two-volume set of books called *Mushrooms, Russia, and History*. Even though these books are out of print, many University libraries have copies available for viewing. They are usually kept in the rare book rooms and may not be checked out. Since Wasson's death last year, both volumes are in the process of being reprinted.



LETTERS

continued from page 28

HYDRO SHROOMS

I have seen references to hydroponically grown mushrooms in your very good magazine. Can I get more information?

—K.B.

London, Ontario
Canada

You'll be happy to know that an article on growing shrooms indoors is currently in the works. An excellent guide in book form is *The Mushroom Cultivator* (to order, see our Bookstore on p. 95).

BIG BUD BOOK

You recently had an article on Big Bud (March '87). Well, this caught my interest in cloning. I have never seen a book on cloning. If one exists, please let me know.

—Your Big Fan
Titus, Alabama

We don't know of any grow books specifically on cloning, but if you check the bookstore ad on pages 94-95, you'll find several books on indoor gardening, most of which contain a chapter on cloning.

GOOD IDEA

Ace had a very good idea in his letter (June '87). Why not a page devoted to "people helping people"?

—Keriterfhristadi
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Beginning next month, *Activist News* becomes *Activist Calendar*. If you have any listings for the Calendar (political rallies, etc.) send them to *Activist Calendar*, HIGH TIMES, 211 East 43rd St., NYC 10017.

BOYCOTT KODAK!

Eastman Kodak, IBM, and GE are involved in random piss testing and should be subjected to boycotts. Kodak recently went to great lengths to get a

law vetoed in Rochester, NY, that would have limited random testing. If you have time, please write Mr. H. Kaska, Public Relations, Eastman Kodak, 343 State St., Rochester, NY 14650. Tell him you're not buying Eastman Kodak products due to their entanglement with Reagan/Meese-sponsored fascism.

—Mr. G.

Rochester, New York

COVER TO COVER

I really hope your mag sticks around and doesn't change. I don't read much, but when HIGH TIMES comes, I read it cover to cover. And yes, I get funny looks when I buy it. But who cares? It's a totally cool magazine that tells it like it is!!!

—E.V.

St. Petersburg, Florida

● Send your letters to HIGH TIMES "Letters," 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. ●

POTTING SOIL

continued from page 67

physical and chemical properties, plus their ability to support seedling growth, were evaluated.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

It is generally agreed that adequate soil aeration, reasonable water-holding capacity, and free drainage are essential physical qualities of an acceptable potting soil. Aeration is thought to be the most important physical property for most situations.

Since standard methods for determining many of the physical properties of soils are not well suited to testing potting soil mixes under actual use conditions, simplified methods were developed to provide accurate, replicated measurements. The procedures were carried out in standard, warm greenhouse conditions and were devised for use with 1-gallon or smaller plastic pots, with each pot constituting one replicate.

The study included six 3-quart pots of each mix. Each pot was filled loosely to the rim with a mix, then tapped sharply on the bench five times to settle the material. Filled pots were watered thoroughly and the ease of wetting was noted.

The pots were then watered three times a week for four weeks to allow compaction. After the final watering, the pots were placed in a saturation tray for 24 hours, weighed, allowed to drain for 48 hours, and reweighed as a means of calculating pore space and container capacity volumes. The exact volume of potting soil in each container was used to determine volume ratios associated with physical properties of the potting soils. The infiltration rate was then measured immediately by observation of the time required for 200 ml (nearly 7 fluid ounces) of water to move through containers after they were saturated.

Finally, a core sample of known volume was taken from the center of each container, then oven-dried and weighed so that the dry weight of the total soil mass as well as the bulk density could be calculated for each potting soil.

Results for the total pore space determination indicate that four soils had ideal levels (mixes 3, 4, 11, 13), nine other products had moderately high levels (mixes 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14), and the rest (mixes 10, 15) had only moderate levels. The volume of air-at-container capacity, which is the amount present after watering and subsequent drainage, was in the suggested optimum percentage range in mixes 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, and 15, but less than optimum in the other six products.

continued on page 77

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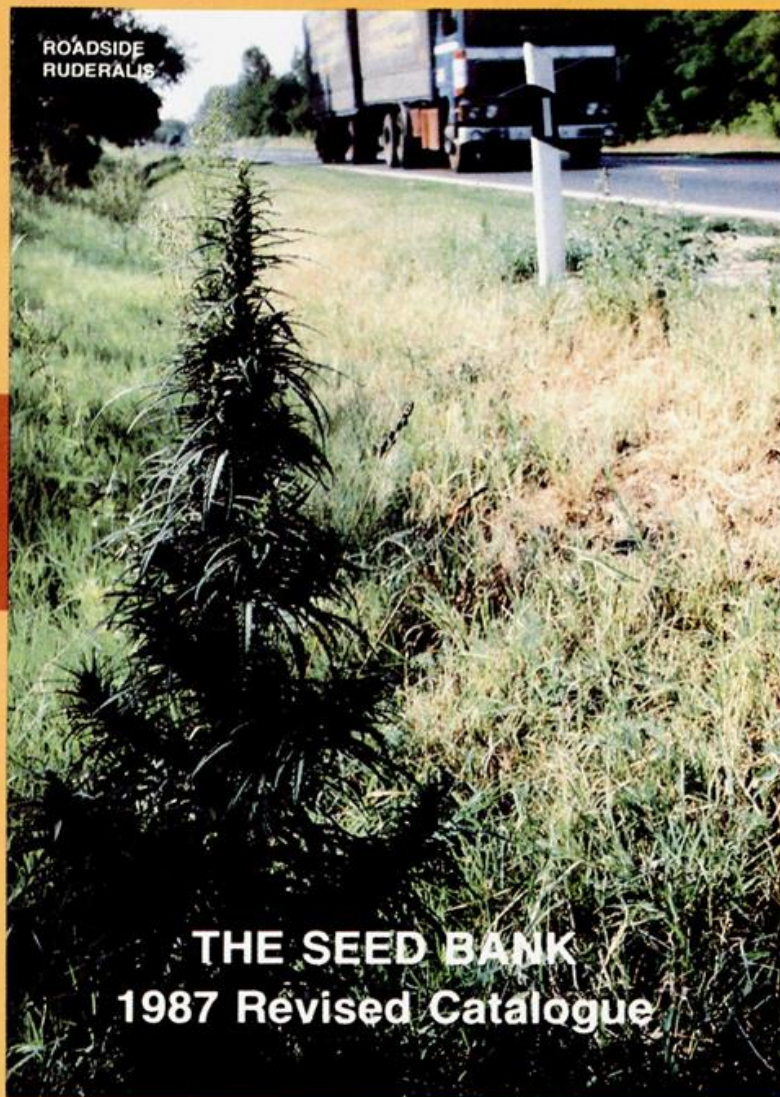
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continued from page 63

Dear Ed,

I am growing in a well-ventilated box that measures 12" deep x 30" wide x 30" high. Between my hydroponic unit which measures 10" D x 30" W x 12" H and the fluorescent lights above, I have only 15 1/2" of growing space. I would like to flower the plants by the time they're 5"-6" to leave enough room for the buds. How soon after germination can I put the plants into flowering? If immediately, can I use only bloom fertilizer? Also, how many plants can I have in this system?

—Eric the Red
Farmingdale, New York

Yes. You can put the plants into flowering as soon as they germinate. The seedlings will start indicating in two to three weeks. The plants will grow 8-12 inches tall and have buds of 1-3 grams. 60-70 seeds can be planted per square foot. Once the males are picked, there will be about 30 plants per square foot. If the seedlings are given two weeks of continuous light before forcing flowering, they will be about a foot tall at onset of flowering and grow an additional 1-1 1/2 feet. Up to 30 seeds per square foot can be planted. After sexing, there should be from 5-15 plants per square foot.

I would start with a bloom fertilizer with added nitrogen (N).

Dear Ed,

Can a food dehydrator be used to dry buds?

—NORML Supporter
North Carolina

Most growers prefer to let their pot dry relatively slowly, over a period of three to seven days. This mellows the sharp taste and removes the green taste. The dehydrator can be used to remove some moisture from the material after it has wilted. They may be useful for processing large quantities.

Dear Ed,

What method of germination would you suggest for best results?

—The CARP
Northern Illinois University
De Kalb, Illinois

Plant the seeds in the medium in which they are to be grown. Keep the medium moist. Enclose the containers in a mini-greenhouse to keep the humidity high. Soil temperature should be maintained at about 72°. Heating cables can be used.

continued over

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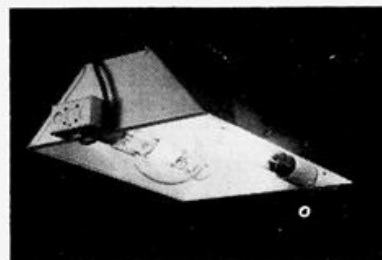
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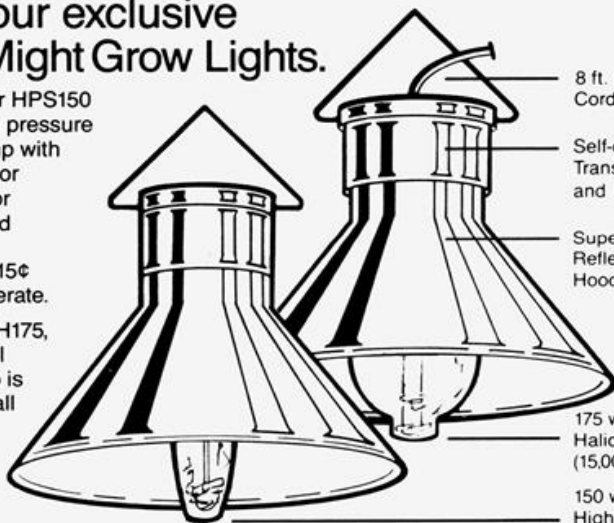
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ASKED

continued from previous page

Dear Ed,

Does it matter how damp the plants are at harvest time? I cut watering down during flowering and fan leaves droop. Is this OK? Should fan leaves be trimmed to make way for larger flowers?

—Grateful Grower

Abilene, Texas

Drooping fan leaves are a sign of heat stress. This slows down growth and lowers yield, although it may speed up ripening a bit. The fan leaves support bud growth by producing sugars used for tissue growth. Removing these leaves lowers the plant's ability to grow. Perhaps the plant can be opened up a bit by spreading its branches.

Dear Ed,

I have trouble drying and curing my crops. The skunky odor seems hard to retain and the buds usually are too brittle. How can I get better results for this important final step?

—J.T.

California

Cultivators harvesting a small crop have trouble retaining the humidity in the curing area that buds need for a slow cure and dry, which helps retain some moisture and odor. If there are only a few ounces to cure, a cardboard box can be set up to serve as a drying area. In dry climates, even larger growers may face too dry an atmosphere. Closing off the space helps increase humidity. A humidifier and some ventilation has also been used.

Dear Ed,

If I refrigerate my cannabis seeds, will it be detrimental to their storage life? Are there any other processes besides refrigeration through which storage life could be increased?

—Crystal Palace

Ohio

Yes. Refrigerating your seeds in a tightly closed container with a moisture-absorbing gel will prolong their life. Another procedure which will help is dusting the seeds with a fungicide. Seeds can also be frozen for long-term storage. First they should be dusted, then placed in a container with a moisture-absorbing gel. Then the container should be tightly sealed. Some of the seeds may die from the freezing process, but the rest will be preserved almost indefinitely. Each time seeds are thawed and refrozen, a portion of them dies.

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Dear Ed,

Most of the grow info seems to be produced by people in cooler climates (Washington, Oregon, and northern California) so seldom is air-conditioning mentioned. If you want to produce truly bad-assed killer pot, you've got to effectively control the temperature, whether that's growing in winter only or getting the room air-conditioner needed to hold the temperature down. Excessive heat, including heat generated by lamps, kills your chances of a good yield. Sure, you can grow pot at 90°, but with all the heat stress, there's not much energy left for photosynthesis or growth.

—BUDDAH, *Holland Seed Grower*
Dallas, Texas

Thanks for the tip, Buddah. It's true: Plants function best in the high 60's to low 70's. Higher and lower temperatures reduce yield. An air-conditioner can be used to lower the temperature. Most come with thermostats built in. Others can be hooked up to a thermostat.

Dear Ed,

Thirty days is a long time to leave a garden unattended, but if D.F. of Kentucky ("Ask Ed," April '87) has no other choice, there is certainly one thing that is mandatory: a Ground Fault Indicator. This device will trip even when a circuit breaker won't if an electrical system problem develops. Actually, a GFI is a good idea for any area where electricity and water are present. Granted, until reset the power is off, but that is a damn sight better than returning to a burned-down house and legal charges for growing pot the fire department found.

—E.M.E.

Tucson, Arizona

Dear Ed,

How can I collect and store pollen for use for fertilizing females later on?

—Johnny Potseed

Atlanta, Georgia

Before the buds open, remove the branches with flower shoots to a space with no drafts. Place the branches sideways, so that they are lying horizontally on sheets of clean paper. Let the flowers open and release the pollen. Most of it should fall on the papers. Collect the pollen and place it in a glassine envelope. Place the envelope in an air-tight container with a moisture-absorbing gel. Place in a cool dark place such as the vegetable crisper section of the refrigerator if the pollen is being stored for up to two weeks. For longer periods of time, place the container in the freezer. Use the pollen as soon as it is removed.

continued over

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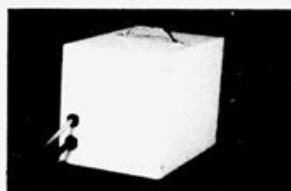
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A S K E D

continued from previous page

Dear Ed,

I've tried to find an Isomerizer for months and can't locate one anywhere.

Obviously I need to keep my inquiries discreet but am rapidly approaching the point where an ad in the Chicago papers seems the only feasible alternative.

Please save me from this insanity and give me directions on where I can get an ISO II.

—XOXOXO

Mishawaka, Indiana

P.S. I always watched Mr. Wizard when I was a kid and will dedicate my efforts in his name.

I do not know what to tell you. My ISO II on display at the Hash Museum in Amsterdam was seized by the police and I am still trying to get it back.

Dear Ed,

My growing area is also occupied by my furnace which burns natural gas. Any time I am in the area for any period of time, I get dizzy and tired. Can the fumes hurt the plants?

I also have a closet set up away from the furnace with several plants of the same age as the ones next to the furnace, but surprisingly, the ones subjected to the fumes have grown faster and longer than the ones in the closet. Might the furnace emit CO₂?

—"There's a Bud in My Closet"
New York, New York

The furnace is emitting CO₂ as evidenced by the plants' growth. However, you are breathing poisonous levels of CO₂ and possibly carbon monoxide (CO) when you are in the area. CO is an extremely poisonous, odorless gas. Before going into the space, make sure that it is ventilated with fresh air. It should remain ventilated with fresh air as long as you are working in it.

Apparently, the plants like the atmosphere, so it need not be modified for them.

Dear Ed,

I've read that the optimum CO₂ level is 1500 PPM. In my S.S.S.C. catalog it states that the CO₂ level should not exceed 700 PPM. Who's right?

—CO₂ Confused
Manvel, Texas

S.S.S.C.'s info is based on a lower light level than is found in many MH or HPS illuminated gardens. For gardens with lower light level, lower levels of CO₂ are required.



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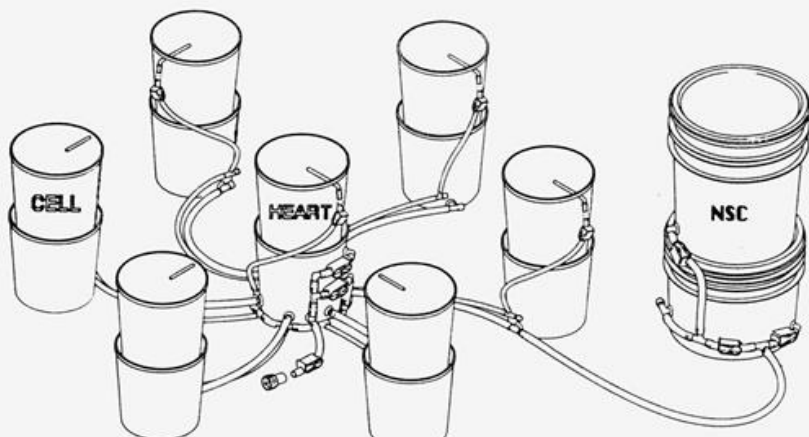
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Dear Ed,

I have been cloning and growing the same *indicas* for a little over two years. The last two generations of clones I have taken have been taking much longer to root than normal and about 60 days to finish their floral cycle. Before, my plants would root in about ten days and finish their floral cycle in no more than 45 days. Could my eighth generation of cloned plants be losing their vigor and fast growth because I have made so many generations of clones? What solution do you suggest?

—Drummer

Stockton, California

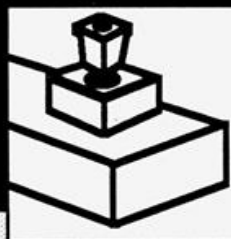
Could be that the clones are losing vigor. One way to prevent this is to use a mother plant as a clone generator. That is, dedicate specific plants to clone generation and keep them alive for a long time. Then all the clones are from the same generation rather than from subsequent generations, even though they represent subsequent crops.

I have been very disturbed in following the "Top 100" to find that the "Ask Ed" column has not made it onto the list. I have stayed up nights wondering where I have failed. For instance in the July issue, President Reagan made #11, Ed Hassle #31, Howard Stern #29, Tie Dyes #40, Partyin' til' you Puke #47, Nuclear Energy #64, and Grits #66. Yet after months of the "Top 40" and "Top 100," the "Ask Ed" column has yet to appear on the list.

My co-columnist at HIGH TIMES, Ed Hassle, had to threaten writer's block in order to get the magazine to do a "Dead" issue. No, I am not going that far: I will continue to write. But my head hangs low as I return to my home each night after hours of intensive, dangerous research, knowing that the "Ask Ed" column is *not* on the list. It's up to you! Do you like "Ask Ed" enough to put it on the "Top 100"?—E.R.

● I welcome comments, tips and questions regarding marijuana and marijuana cultivation. Send all letters to Ask Ed, HIGH TIMES, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. Also send entries for the Bud, Plant and Garden of the Month Contests. All correspondents whose letters or photos are used will receive a free copy of my book, *Marijuana Growers Handbook, Indoor/Greenhouse Edition*.

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High Times Salute to BASEBALL



continued from page 61

ballplayer, Babe Ruth, had outplayed and outdrank all players before and after his time. As beer expert Will Anderson tells the story: "In the August heat of 1948, at Babe Ruth's funeral, former teammate *Jumping Joe Dugan* remarked to pitcher *Waite Hoyt*, 'I'd give a hundred dollars for a beer.' Replied Hoyt, 'So would the Babe.'"

Prohibition attitudes died hard though. Bill James describes an incident in 1945, of Brooklyn Dodger general manager *Branch Rickey's* horror upon learning that manager *Leo Durocher* prescribed a shot of brandy before each game to cure pitcher *Tom Seaver's* unsteady nerves. Aghast at the notion of a ballplayer under the influence, Rickey had Seaver banned from baseball for life.

A Wholesome, Family Game!

Rickey knew the beery ways of *Durocher* and his teams, but he never attended a Sunday game in his life. Beer sales and Sunday baseball were controversial as early as 1881, when the Cincinnati Reds were expelled from the National League for playing on Sunday and selling beer. In 1882 a competing league, the American Association, was founded in response to the Sunday baseball and beer ban. While the National League charged fifty cents admission with no beer and no games on Sundays, the American Association had beer, Sunday games, and twenty-five cent tickets.

In the 1880s, ballplayers were often arrested and tried for violating the Sabbath. *Charles Ebbetts'* Brooklyn Dodgers evaded the blue laws in 1902 by not charging admission to the game. The New York Highlanders, later known as the Yankees, handed out cards at a Sunday exhibition game asking fans to refrain from cheering, in order to avoid violation of the Sunday ban on baseball. A reverend at a Fort Wayne semiprofessional game in 1898, who was compiling a list of all Sabbath violators, was mobbed by unruly fans and forced to surrender his pad and pencil. Such resistance paid off, as baseball on Sundays did become acceptable, although Sunday baseball bans continued until 1934 in Philadelphia.

Rebellion For The Hell Of It

Resistance to authority has always been a part of baseball. Players have ignored managers' disciplinary codes ever since the first professional teams were organized. A typical players' reaction came from the 1971 Houston Astros, who were angered by manager *Harry Walker's* disciplinary code. Baseball historian *David Voigt* tells how they would loudly sing this verse in response:

"Now Harry Walker is the one that manages this crew.

He doesn't like it when we drink and fight and smoke and screw;

But when we win our games each day,

Then what the fuck can Harry say.

It makes a fellow proud to be an Astro."

While the 1971 Astros taunted their manager, players began to fight against the idiotic reserve clause, which resulted in free agency, and the right to play on whatever team they wanted after six years in the major leagues. The scent of marijuana and the air of revolt was in the streets, the ballpark stands, and the players' hotel rooms.

Now, in the late 1980s, we live in an age of repression. The war on drugs, the crackdown on beer sales at the ballpark, the team owners' refusal to sign free agents, and the persecution of young athletes for recreational drug use all represent the backlash against the freedoms fought for and enjoyed by baseball fans and players. As you watch this year's World Series, celebrate an American tradition—your right to party. But beware of the new prohibitionists. ●

POTTING SOIL

continued from page 69

Container capacity, which is an estimate of the upper limit of available moisture of soil in a container, was moderately high to high for each of the mixes evaluated. This finding suggests that each product could hold an adequate amount of moisture.

With the exception of rates for mix 5, all of the infiltration rates calculated by these procedures were extremely high. It was observed, however, that potting mixes 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 15 were considerably less permeable than the others and that mix 5 had very poor relative infiltration.

The percentage of water significantly affected the handling of mix 7. This mix, which was sold by weight, was needlessly high in water, and was much more difficult to handle out of the package.

In addition, initial wetting of the mix was a problem in products 9, 10, and 11, which required several irrigations to become thoroughly wet.

In this test, potting soil mixes with fir bark or forest materials as the primary ingredients more consistently approached or exceeded suggested minimum standards of the essential physical qualities than did those with other organic materials as primary ingredients. This finding does not suggest a cause-and-effect relationship, however, since these tendencies were not observed for all products evaluated. In fact, most of the products demonstrated at least satisfactory overall physical properties with the possible exceptions of mixes 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 15. The results do suggest that consumers may have some confidence that a high percentage of bark or forest materials in a given mix is an indication of satisfactory physical characteristics.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Samples of each mix purchased were analyzed for pH, soluble salts, percent organic matter, percent water, and concentrations of important nutrients. All measurements were by the standard methods used by the University of California Cooperative Extension Soil, Water, and Plant Analysis Laboratory.

The range in chemical properties was quite wide. Unlike results of the physical analysis, there did not appear to be any link between the primary ingredients and the respective chemical properties in the potting soils. The only predictable link was that of the sewage sludge and a correspondingly high salt content of mix 8, since processed sewage sludge often contains concentrated salts.

continued on page 80

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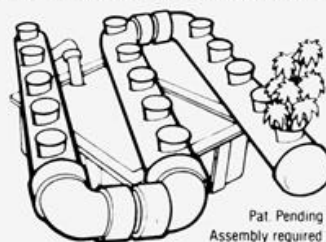
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7	8	9
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22	23	24
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28	29	30
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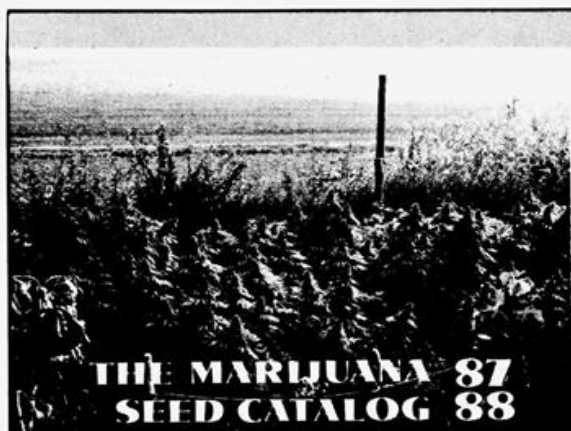
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EXP. DATE

POTTING SOIL

continued from page 77

Several mixes (3, 5, 7, 8, 10) had pH measurements well below the reported acceptable range for growing plants in artificial media, and two products had pH values above 7.0. Soluble salts were at significantly higher levels than the generally accepted maximum of 2.0 dS/m in six mixes, and in four products were at levels that could cause serious injury to many plant species (mixes 4, 5, 8, 10).

Concentrations of the nutrient ions sampled indicated that more than one ion contributed to the high salts in a given mix. The overall nutrient status of these potting soils varied widely from deficient to nearly excessive. Of particular importance were the ranges of the macronutrients nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium.

Organic matter percentages ranged from about 38 to over 95 percent with a majority of the mixes having over 50 percent concentrations. There was no consistent relationship between the percentage of organic matter and pore space in these mixes.

In summary, a number of the products evaluated showed unsatisfactory values for more than one chemical property (mixes 3, 5, 8, 19). Soluble salts and pH levels were the primary problems. Since these conditions cannot be correlated to stated mix ingredients, it is likely that the poor chemical performance results from the manufacturer's total formulation process and not from the raw ingredients listed on the package.

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Samples of each potting soil mix were placed in 24 one-inch cells (four replicates of six cells) in a Speedling flat, and one tomato seed (cv. 'Bigset') was placed in each cell for observation of germination and growth rates. A sample of the standard UC greenhouse soil mix (50 percent sand, 25 percent shredded bark, 25 percent Canadian peat moss, plus a nutrient mix) was included in this trial for comparison.

The flats were overhead-watered, covered with clear plastic, and placed in a warm greenhouse. As germination proceeded, the plastic was removed, and the flats received overhead irrigation of tap water as needed for the remainder of the experiment. Germination was recorded after 14 days. After one month, plant shoot lengths were measured and overall seedling and root-system vigor evaluated.

Germination percentages ranged from
continued on page 83

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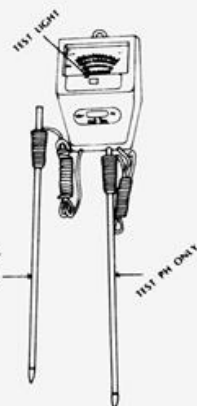
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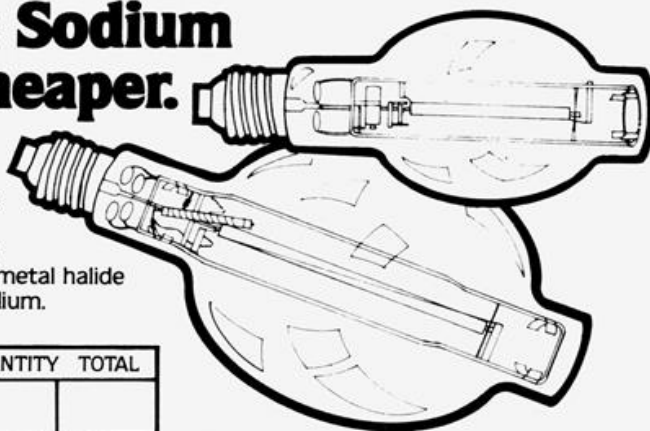
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POTTING SOIL

TABLE 3. GERMINATION AND GROWTH OF TOMATOES IN POTTING SOIL MIXES

Mix ID	Germination @ 14 days	Average seedling height @ 1 month	Overall seedling vigor rating*
		cm	
1	79	10.6	Excellent
2	46	6.0	Poor
3	67	10.1	Excellent
4	79	6.3	Poor
5	71	6.7	Satisfactory
6	50	9.4	Good
7	92	7.1	Satisfactory
8	83	8.6	Good
9	83	6.3	Poor
10	92	8.1	Satisfactory
11	67	8.6	Good
12	67	6.3	Satisfactory
13	83	6.9	Satisfactory
14	87	4.7	Poor
15	83	7.6	Satisfactory
UC mix	83	6.8	Satisfactory

* Includes shoot and root development.

continued from page 80

46 to 92 percent (table 3). This lot of seed had 83 percent germination in a standard seven-day germination test, and half of the mixes evaluated met or exceeded the standard. The high salt content of mixes 8 and 9, surprisingly, did not reduce the germination of tomatoes, and neither did the low pH of mixes 7, 8, and 10. This suggests that the salts were readily leached and that tomato germination was not adversely affected by low pH.

Seedling growth varied widely. At the end of the one-month period, all the seedlings appeared somewhat deficient in nitrogen. The plants in mixes 2, 5, 7, and 10, however, appeared to have more than just a nitrogen deficiency, because they showed a great deal of purple coloration as well. Seedlings from mixes 2, 5, and 14 developed poor root systems, and in many instances, there were not enough roots to enable removal of a soil/root plug intact from the cell. Plants in mixes 12, 13, and the UC mix developed satisfactory root systems, while those in the remaining mixes developed excellent, vigorous roots. Good plants developed in mix 6, even though aeration and infiltration were relatively low. This mix had nearly optimum pH, salts, and phosphorous levels, which may have maximized the plants' capabilities under less than ideal soil conditions.

There was some indication of a link between root development and the air-at-container capacity for a given mix, as can be seen when comparing the plant growth in mixes 2, 5, and 14.

Overall, 11 of the potting soil mixes and the UC mix produced satisfactory tomato transplants. Several factors in both the physical and chemical properties of these mixes appear to be responsible for the

continued on page 89

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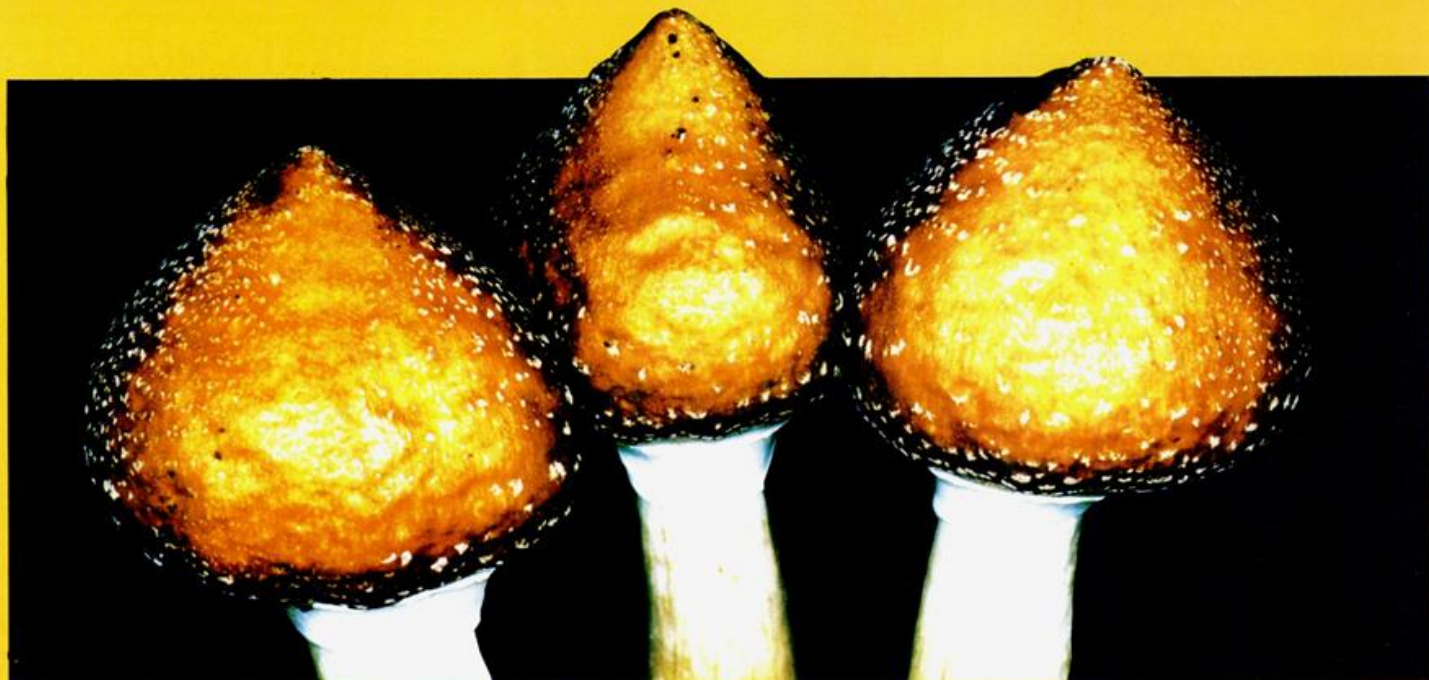
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James Brown's five greatest raps:

by John Leland

"Dig this. Do you feel alright? Feel pretty good myself. Now look here, I got a little groovemaker, something I'd like to do, since we're here, we might as well get the best out of it. If it's all night it's alright. Looka here. Are you ready band? Dancers, are you ready? Are you ready audience? You ready Flames? You ready again? Building, is you ready, because we gonna tear you down! I hope the building can stand all this soul, because it sure got a lot coming on."

—from "I Feel All Right"
(Live at the Apollo)

"Now me and the boys just taking a walk, rapping a little and having a talk. In comes this chick with blouse and jeans and man, was she slick. But looka here, I wanna tell you one more time in case you can't see. Hey, Ray Charles, looka here. You see it wasn't the size that caught my eyes, but what made me realize, for goodness sakes, Stevie Wonder, did you see those cakes? Good God, do it again. Stevie, me and you been hanging out for a long time, brother, I know how you feel. Stevie told me one night, said man did you see those cakes? I was walking down the avenue one night and brother Ray Charles came over to me and said Brown, I don't know what you doing laying over there but did you see those cakes? Looka here. Everybody see those cakes."

—from "Look at Those Cakes"
(Look at Those Cakes)

"Look here. I gotta get up and do my thing. Okay, let me kinda move these things around here, so I can get up and do my thing, understand? Uh, can I really get into it? Can I get into the thing really? Like a sex machine? Moving? Doing it? Can I get into it? Can I get it all out of the thing? Are you ready to get into it? I'm gonna count it off then. One two three four."

—from "Get Up I Feel Like Being Like a Sex Machine"
(Sex Machine)

"You know, we're dealing with a very critical and crucial time, the most crucial and critical time that I have ever witnessed, being as young as I am, you know, we all don't want to say nothing else so we say as young as we are. Now I want to talk about the pronunciation and the realization. Now, the educators, they call it ESP, positive thinking, right? Some of the people across the pond call it vibes, vibrations, astrology and all those different things, you understand? But I call it: What it is is what it is, what it is is what it is."

—from "Mind Power"
(The Payback)

"You don't know what you're doing to me baby. You don't know what you're doing to me. I don't know either, baby, but I hope you keep on doing it 'cause it makes me feel good. Now wait a minute: You're standing out there with your hot pants on. But don't let nobody tell you how to wear your pants. Listen to me: Don't let nobody tell you how to wear your pants. 'Cause any way you wear 'em is alright with me. There's one thing I want to say to you right here, I want to rip off this little rap right here and say, baby be mellow, and be sweet, forget about that diet, and sit down and eat. Losing that weight you don't, 'cause the more you got the more I want."

—from "Bewildered"
(Revolution of the Mind)



BUTANE JAMES

RUSHES



● One vegetable meets another: Rick Moranis mugs it up with the insipid Audrey II.

by Jim Poling

TRUE STORIES

(Warner)

Good or bad word-of-mouth wouldn't have mattered since this David Byrne longhorn satire didn't stay in theaters long enough. The movie is really just a prank but a good one, and sees Texas more clearly than **GIANT** did. With Swoozie Kurtz and Spalding Gray.

BLADE RUNNER

(Criterion LD)

INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS

(Criterion LD)

Criterion Laser Disc is re-releasing these two disparate science-fiction classics, and purists may want to take note. Both are being prepared in the letterbox form enabling the video viewer to see the whole Scope picture—though reduced to fit—as intended. **BLADE RUNNER**'s re-release also includes additional footage never-before-seen as well as an alternative ending?!

SOMETHING WILD

(HBO/Cannon)

The best comedy of last year featuring the hippest score and a tantalizing performance by Melanie Griffith as Lulu, the kind of woman men would gladly kill for. When she seduces yuppie Jeff Daniels, he discovers he just might have to. Jonathan Demme directed.

A FISTFUL OF DYNAMITE

(MGM/UA)

Peasant thief Rod Steiger gets talked into joining the Mexican revolution in Sergio Leone's wry and weirdly funny movie. Not as good as Leone's **ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST** but better than his Clint Eastwood "DOLLARS" movies. Released in this country and edited as **DUCK, YOU SUCKER**, MGM/UA is releasing the complete 158-minute version.

NO MERCY

(RCA/Columbia)

An action picture working strictly by formula but some great set pieces, an

ingeniously creepy villain, good-looking leads (Richard Gere/Kim Basinger), and steamy New Orleans locations make it a very good waste of 90 minutes.

THE STEPFATHER

(Embassy)

An underrated thriller that, once discovered, became overrated. Terry O'Quinn is very good as a psychotic who marries into families and slaughters them if they don't live up to his expectations. A couple of cheap references to Hitchcock's **THE BIRDS** and **PSYCHO** are thrown in.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

(Warner)

Clumsy, incoherent, and over produced new musical comedy based on Roger Corman's 1960 cheapie (which has recently been colorized to no great disadvantage). Surprisingly good reviews didn't help it much at the box office. Good cast, altered ending, and unmemorable score.

PSYCHOTRONIC

—MICHAEL J. WELDON

The first European Psychotronic Film Festival was a success! I had a great time traveling to cities from Stockholm to Paris, introducing rare 16MM prints of six low-budget American horror and science fiction features. I also took some industrial shorts, film trailers, and TV commercials (including several from the old "Death Valley Days" show with Reagan, filmed just before he ran for governor of California, on which he sells Borax soap products). Two 1953 classics, **ROBOT MONSTER** and **DAUGHTER OF HORROR** (narrated by Ed McMahon), were clearly the favorites, but audiences also enjoyed watching young **Dennis Hopper** fall in love with a mermaid in **NIGHT TIDE**, and **NABONGA**—the gorilla-protecting jungle princess **Julie London**. People discovered that **THE HIDEOUS SUN DEMON** is actually a pretty good movie, and discussed how **CARNIVAL OF SOULS** seems to have been a major influence on **David Lynch**. **Sweden**, a very friendly northern country (with lots of beautiful women), is famous for being neutral and giving out the **Nobel Peace Prize**, but in less than two years their Prime Minister was assassinated, reindeer had to be killed after the fallout from **Chernobyl**, the government was caught profiting from illegal arms deals, the **A.I.D.S.** panic hit, and the first graffiti(!) started showing up on Stockholm's subway cars. The Swedes were in just the right state of mind for the **PSYCHOTRONIC** experience. In Stockholm I enjoyed the food, got sick from the vodka, watched the May Day parades, and went to a disco where they played **Johnnie "Guitar" Watson** while **THE MYSTERIANS** was projected over the dancers' heads. In Malmo, I was taken to an all-night restaurant where all the Yugoslavian cooks were wearing **Psychotronic/Robot Monster T-shirts**!

It was interesting being in **Berlin** (West and East) during the split city's 750th anniversary. East German police battled people who gathered to hear concerts (by **David Bowie** and the **Eurythmics**) taking place on the other side of the wall, and a 19-year-old West German landed a **Cessna** in Moscow's **Red Square**. After looking all over West Germany, I found an incredible, out-of-print 1966 German album by **The Monks** in Vienna. **The Monks**, who sound a bit like the **Velvet Underground** crossed with **The Soft Machine**, were a group of American G.I.s stationed in Berlin who shaved the top of their heads, wore all black clothes, and recorded songs like "**I Hate You**." I was on television in Vienna, and the interview was intercut with a trailer from **THE CRAWLING HAND**, with **The Rivingtons** singing "**The Bird!**"

I bought (or traded for) lots of rare movie posters and illustrated film books about people like **Russ Meyer**, **Jayne Mansfield**, **Klaus Kinski**, **Eddie Constantine**, and **Ursula Andress**, and one about all the movies based on **Edgar Wallace** novels. People showed me movies like **Sam Fuller's DEAD PIGEON ON BEETHOVEN ST.** (made for German TV), **HORRORS OF SPIDER ISLAND** (1959 German sex/horror), **Russ Meyer's MOTOR PSYCHO** (in German)—an early '50s science fiction short from Iceland, and worst of all, an early '70s American story about a Catholic Viet Nam vet biker who becomes a blood-drinking chicken monster. It's called **BLOOD FREAK** and was produced, directed, and written by its star (**Steve Hawks**) somewhere in the south (maybe Florida). I saw it dubbed in French. It was definitely one of the ten worst movies I've ever witnessed and a perfect way to end two months of **Psychotronic** life on the road.

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POTTING SOIL

continued from page 83

outcome, but no consistent relationships between ingredients and seedling development could be determined. Some of the mixes with less than optimum ratings of important properties (3, 5, 6, 8) produced acceptable tomato seedlings. From this very limited growing test, one cannot determine how seeds and seedlings of other crops would develop in these mixes, nor can the performance of other species that would be transplanted into one of these mixes be estimated. It is reasonable to assume that the uses of mixes with less than optimum pH, aeration, or drainage characteristics and with high soluble salts would result in poor growth of a wide range of plant species under most conditions.

CONCLUSIONS

The results of this study are based on single purchases of products that may not represent their average quality. However, the findings do describe the actual quality control problems confronting consumers and justify the following conclusions and recommendations.

There is limited evidence suggesting that a consumer could predict the physical suitability of a potting mix by knowing the types of ingredients, but there are no consistent relationships between the chemical properties or seedling development and the ingredients. In this study, pH, soluble salts, and air-at-container capacity appeared to be the properties that determined whether or not a mix was suitable. Since none of these attributes could be related consistently to the ingredients used, information currently required on package labels is inadequate for a consumer to use in predicting the performance of a potting soil.

Accurate decisions on suitability can only be made if one also knows the pH, soluble salts, and air-at-container capacity. It is recommended that manufacturers include this information as well. In the interim, consumers are recommended to:

- Select mixes high in bark, forest materials, or sphagnum peat plus vermiculite.
- Thoroughly leach any potting soil at least three or four times before placing seed or plant material in the mix. Leaching will reduce soluble salts to acceptable levels in most mixes.
- Fertilize with a soluble fertilizer according to the manufacturer's directions within two weeks after plants are growing in new potting soil to replace leached nutrients and those taken up by the plants.

Dennis R. Pittenger is Extension Urban Horticulture Specialist, University of California, Riverside. The author acknowledges the assistance of Douglas Holt, Staff Research Associate, and Isfendiar Ramadan, Manager, Diagnostic Laboratories, UC Riverside.

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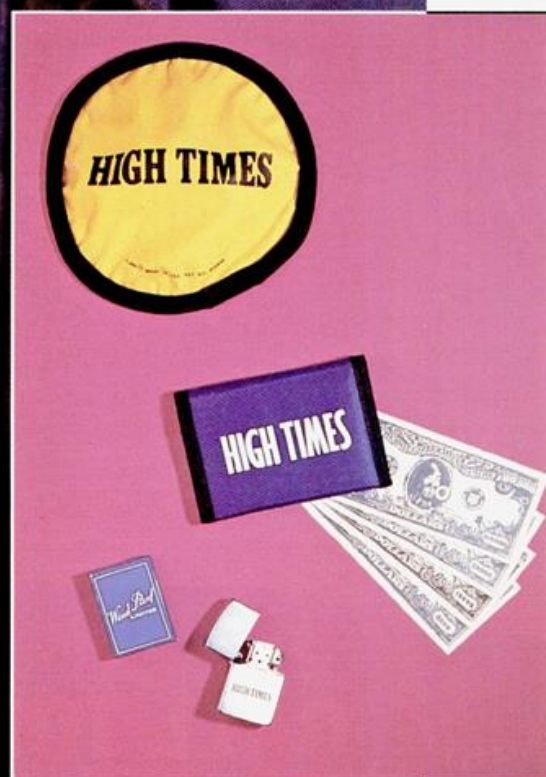
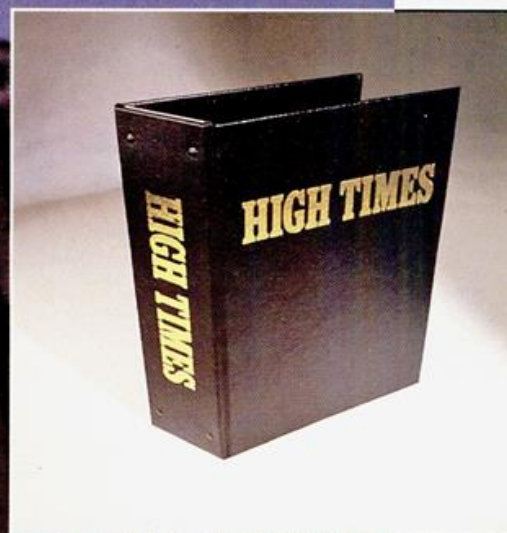


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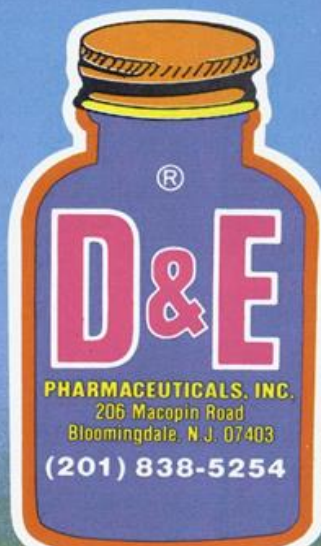
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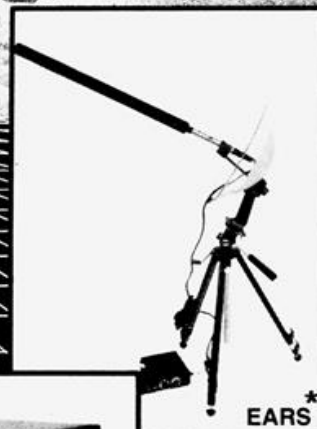
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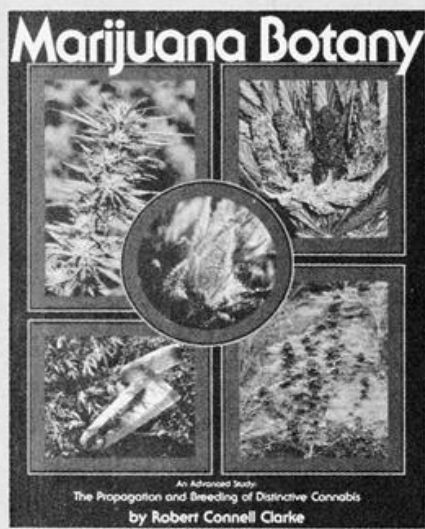
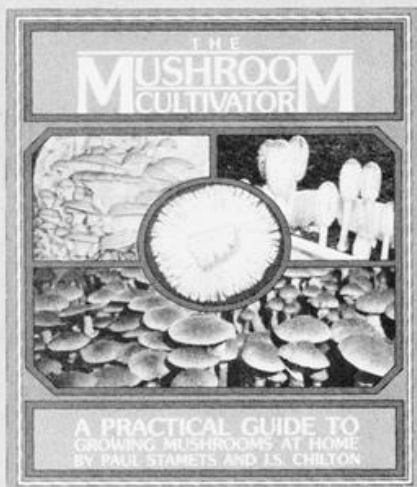
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the HIGH TIMES



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INDOOR MARIJUANA CULTIVATION

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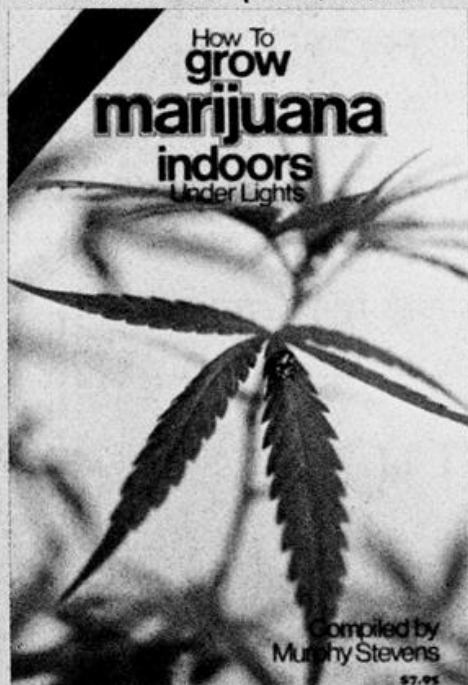
Simple directions and accompanying photographs make this book informative and easy to follow. Learn the best methods of growing marijuana indoors with lights. HTB/40 \$5.95

HOW TO GROW MARIJUANA

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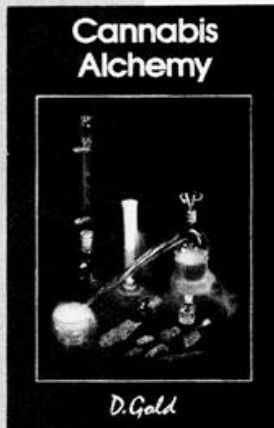
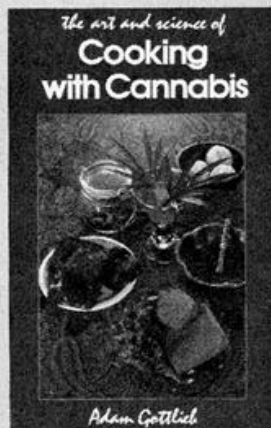
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by Jim Richardson

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HOW TO IDENTIFY AND GROW

PSILOCYBIN MUSHROOMS

by Jule Stevens and Rich Gee

This book tells how to identify psilocybin mushrooms, as well as how to grow them in your own home. Color photographs make for an easy-to-follow and informative book. HTB/38 \$6.95

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Literally everything you ever want to know about hallucinogenic mushrooms can be found within this book. Complete with dozens of color photographs, diagrams, and glossary, it will prove an invaluable addition to your psychedelic library. HTB/16 \$12.95

HOW TO GROW THE FINEST HERB INDOORS

by Murphy Stevens

This book on growing marijuana indoors brings new information on pruning, curing and drying, as well as equipment, lights, and fertilizers for a more satisfactory homegrown crop. HTB/39 \$9.95

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How to grow the easy way, get big yields from little gardens in your backyard, patio, apartment, etc. HTB/36 \$4.95

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Educate:

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Litigate:

Know your rights. Don't sign them away! There are problems with urine tests, and many people have successfully fought back.

Demonstrate:

Join NORML in NYC, October 24 to protest urine testing. Call NORML for details!

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TOP 100

LAST MONTH

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| 1. PINK FLOYD (4) | 26. SUBVERSIVE, 'INTELLECTUAL' BOOKS | 51. NORMAL (26)
(THE FORCE THAT'S WITH US) | 76. GREENPEACE |
| 2. LSD (1) | 27. CANNABIS SATIVA | 52. JUDAS PRIEST | 77. BEING A MAMMAL, DUDE! |
| 3. SEX (86) | 28. EZEKIEL 23 (6) | 53. DUMP REAGAN
(AND NANCY!!!) | 78. FRONT ROW SEATS AND THAI JOINTS |
| 4. BILBO + FRDO'S BIRTHDAY (SEPT. 22) | 29. N.D.S.U. | 54. GANJA SKATER
(SKATEBOARDING) | 79. THE ADAMS FAMILY
(COUSIN ITT IS SO CUTE!) |
| 5. MONEY
(LOTS OF IT) | 30. DAVID ROBERT JONES
TRANSLUCENT LETHARGY | 55. PEACE | 80. READING IN THE BATHROOM |
| 6. NAM MYO-HO RENGE KYO | 31. (OKLAHOMA'S NUMBER ONE
HARDCORE METAL MAGAZINE) | 56. DEADHEADS | 81. FRISBEE DOGS |
| 7. LED ZEPPELIN (2) | 32. SHROOMS (24) | 57. AC/DC | 82. FUGLY
(FUCKING UGLY) |
| 8. "X" JOINTS | 33. FRANK ZAPPA (10) | 58. HEAVY METAL | 83. THE DICKIES
SUPER PSYCHEDELIC FARKING |
| 9. THE FABULOUS FURRY FREAK BROTHERS | 34. STOP CONTRA AID
DOIN' SHROOMS | 59. FARKING HENDRIX (99) | 84. (FARTING WHILE FUCKING ON ACID
OR SHROOMS WHILE LISTENING TO
THE GRATEFUL DEAD DURING A FULL MOON) |
| 10. GROW ROOMS
TRIPPING OUT AT THE
NORTHVILLE INSANE ASYLUM
IN MICHIGAN (ABANDONED) | 35. WITH MR. BUD MAN | 60. THE BILL OF RIGHTS | 85. RADAR JAMMERS
(REMOTE SYSTEMS) |
| 11. VINNY
"DA KILLAH" BUDS | 36. TOWER MAGAZINES
AFTER MIDNIGHT
(PROGRESSIVE RADIO - 93.2 FM) | 61. MOTORCYCLES | 86. MENTORS RULE
(THRASH BAND OUT OF FRISCO) |
| 12. SEX WHILE TRIPPING | 37. LOVE (6) | 62. GRADUATING! | 87. PEACE SELLS
BUT WHO'S BUYING |
| 13. THE WORLD SERIES | 38. HEP CAT | 63. NEW YORK | 88. DIVING
(SCUBA, MUFF, ISKY, BRIDGE) |
| 14. KID'S RIGHTS | 39. TRIPPIN' WITH THE GRATEFUL DEAD | 64. HARDCORE JESUS (11) | 89. "IT'S GOOD TO BE THE KING" |
| 15. THE NATIONAL LAMPOON (2) | 40. EQUIDEMIUS
(AN L.A. BAND) | 65. WE WANT TO ROCK | 90. "I SAY, SHE SAY, UP THE BUTT!"
(COURTESY OF THE NEWLYWED
GAME, JUNE 12, 1987) |
| 16. TRIPPING (3) | 41. LOSING YOUR VIRGINITY | 66. NEVADA BIGFOOT ALE | 91. CHEVY TRUCKS
(AIN'T NO TOYOTA, BOY!) |
| 17. FREEDOM (5) | 42. ROCK'N'ROLL | 67. SAYING NO ISN'T ENOUGH | 92. I DON'T KNOW
(BUT IT'S NOT FRENCH HASH) |
| 18. GRATEFUL DEAD (8) | 43. DRUGS | 68. NUKE NANCY! | 93. VACATION WITH AN 8-BALL |
| 19. THEY MELT IN YOUR MIND | 44. SEX+DRUGS | 69. DIXIE
(STARS + BARS FOREVER) | 94. ASHES ON MY DOG
(HE WROTE THE SONG) |
| 20. BILL THE CAT AND OPUS (BLOOM COUNTY) | 45. BLOW JOBS | 70. POLITICS (SUCK) | 95. HOWARD STERN (46) |
| 21. ANGRY SAMOANS (5) | 46. TORCHLIGHTING
(LIGHTING FARTS) | 71. HANK KIMBALL
HE'S THE... NO, HE'S NOT THAT,
HE WAS... NO, THAT'S MR. HANEY'S JOB...
OH YEAH! HE'S THE COUNTY EXTENSION
AGENT ON GREEN ACRES!) | 96. TAKING SINSE
(I KNOW THIS WILL BE THE ONLY
ENTRY FOR THIS BUT IF YOU CAN
PUT IT ON THE LIST - A FRIEND OF MINE'S
MOTHER ASKED HIM IF HE WAS
"TAKING SINSE" - BOB) |
| 22. LONG, DEEP, REFRESHING, SKULL-FUCKING BONG HITS (5) | 47. SWEET DADDY | 72. METALLICA | 97. CAPITALISM
ASK ED
(DON'T WORRY, ED... YOU GOT ONE VOTE!) |
| 23. HALLOWEEN PARTIES | 48. I HATE THE GRATEFUL DEAD | 73. FEEDING PIRANHAS | 98. ED??? |
| 24. BEER (9) | 49. ISSHINRYU KARATE | 74. SMELLY, STINKY PANTIES | 99. ED??? |
| | 50. | 75. SINK BONGS | 100. I LOVE GAYLE MARTIN |

#1

#2

#3

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High Times

OCTOBER 1987



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